Friday, June 5, 2026 No 155 ₹7

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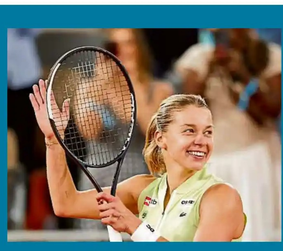

French Open: Chwalinska makes history

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B'luru SIR begins, 28% of voters must show proof

BENGALURU, DHNS: Nearly 72% of the 88.95 lakh voters in Bengaluru have been successfully mapped to the 2002 electoral rolls as part of the Election Commission's special intensive revision (SIR) exercise while the remaining 28% will have to furnish supporting documents to establish their eligibility for inclusion in the voters' list.

Briefing reporters on Thursday, District Election Officer Maheshwar Rao said the mapping exercise, which links the 2025 electoral rolls with the 2002 voters' list, has been completed for 72% of electors across Bengaluru city. He however added that mapping is just a procedure to make work easy for the election staff and does not mean that the names of 28% are deleted from the electoral rolls.

Officials said voters whose names have been traced to the 2002 rolls will face fewer verification requirements during the revision. However, electors who could not be mapped to the 2002 rolls will be required to provide documentary proof or establish lineage through parents whose names appeared in earlier electoral rolls, as prescribed under the EC's guidelines.

▸ SIR, Page 3B

RS polls: BJP names 11 new faces, no decision yet on Deve Gowda

Mallikarjun Kharge, Pawan Khera feature on Cong list

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Amid signs of an impending reshuffle in the Modi government, the BJP on Thursday dropped all its sitting MPs, including two Union ministers, Ravneet Singh Bittu and George Kurian, while nominating 11 fresh faces for the Rajya Sabha polls.

The Congress also released its list renominating party president Mallikarjun Kharge from Karnataka. The other two seats from Karnataka have been allocated to party secretary Mansoor Ali Khan and national spokesperson Pawan Khera.

The BJP has kept its cards close to its chest in Karnataka regarding former prime minister and JD(S) supremo HD Deve Gowda, whose tenure in the Upper House ends on June 25.

While the BJP is expected to send the nonagenarian to the Rajya Sabha, the party's state unit is not in favour, said sources.

H D Deve Gowda

Mallikarjun Kharge

Among the 11 names, the BJP has nominated the party's Hindu face from Punjab, party national general secretary Tarun Chugh, as its Rajya Sabha MP from Madhya Pradesh, dropping Union minister Ravneet Singh Bittu.

Congress sources said Kharge will file his nomination on Friday. Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, will accompany Kharge when he files his the nomination at the Vidhana Soudha.

The lone seat in Tamil Nadu, which the TVK gave to the Congress, could go to the party's data unit chief Praveen Chakravarthy.

From Rajasthan, the BJP has nominated Satish Poonia to counter Congress' Govind Dotasra. Against Sachin Pilot, the party has nominated Alka Gurjar, who is one of the two women in the list.

From Manipur, the BJP has named state president A Sharda Devi, and from Odisha, it has nominated Debashish Samantaray, who had just recently left the Biju Janata Dal as a sitting Rajya Sabha member.

In Gujarat, the BJP has fielded Rajubhai Shukla, Mukeshbhai Rathwa, Mansingh Parmar and Jitendra Meghjibhai Kanzariya, and from Arunachal Tai Tagak has been nominated.

The Rajya Sabha polls in 10 states, including Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Manipur, are scheduled to be held on June 18, and a lone seat in Odisha, vacated due to Samantaray's resignation, will also go to the polls.

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Ebola alert: K'taka orders vigil across hospitals

Healthcare facilities urged to screen and report suspected cases promptly

Ebola classification

Suspect case
Fever with acute bleeding symptoms and travel to an affected area within the last 21 days.

Probable case
Suspect case with direct contact with a laboratory-confirmed Ebola patient in the previous 21 days.

Confirmed case
Suspect or probable case verified through laboratory testing (positive IgM, PCR, or viral isolation).

Contact person
Asymptomatic individual who had physical exposure to a patient, their body fluids, or the deceased within the past three weeks.

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka government has issued a statewide high alert following the World Health Organisation's (WHO) declaration of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

The global alert follows a rise in Ebola cases in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda.

In a circular issued on May 30, the Commissionerate of Health and Family Welfare Services directed all private medical establishments, medical college hospitals, and other healthcare institutions to maintain a "high index of suspicion" for EVD and strictly follow surveillance and reporting protocols.

Healthcare institutions have been instructed to screen patients with relevant symptoms and travel history, immediately report suspected and probable EVD cases through the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP), promptly inform the respective District Surveillance Officer (DSO), maintain detailed records of patients and contacts, facilitate epidemiological investigations by District Surveillance Units and strictly follow Infection Prevention and Control measures, including isolation of suspected cases and the use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

The commissionerate defined a suspect case as any living or deceased person presenting with fever and acute signs of haemorrhage, such as bleeding gums, nosebleeds, red eyes, red spots on the body, vomiting blood or bloody or black stools, who has travelled to an affected area within the previous 21 days.

A probable case is any suspected case that has had direct contact with a laboratory confirmed Ebola patient in the past 21 days.

A confirmed case is any suspect or probable case with laboratory confirmation, such as positive IgM antibody, positive PCR or viral isolation, by an ICMR designated laboratory.

A contact is any asymptomatic person who has had physical contact in the past three weeks with a patient, including sharing a room or bed, providing care, touching body fluids or participating in a burial involving direct contact with the corpse.

In Bengaluru, Epidemic Disease Hospital has been designated as the quarantine facility, while the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases (RGICD) will serve as the isolation and treatment centre.

In Mangaluru, Srinivas Port Hospital has been designated as the quarantine facility and Wenlock Hospital as the isolation and treatment centre.

If a suspected case is identified, District Surveillance Units will collect samples using strict biosafety protocols. Samples will first be sent to the National Institute of Virology in Bengaluru and then transferred to the ICMR's National Institute of Virology in Pune for final confirmation.

Namma Metro gets first Blue Line train; trial run months away

BENGALURU, DHNS

A Blue Line coach unloaded at the Baiyappanahalli depot on Thursday.

Namma Metro has received the first train for the Blue Line, the crucial 58.19-km corridor connecting Silk Board Junction with the Kempegowda International Airport via KR Puram and Hebbal.

Early Thursday morning, six coaches of the driverless train arrived at the Baiyappanahalli depot from BEML's Thippasandra plant in the city. The coaches were unloaded and moved to the Inspection Bay Line in the afternoon, a senior BMRCL official told *DH*.

Although the train's arrival marks a milestone for the Blue Line, it is unlikely to be moved to the mainline before July-end. Full-fledged trial runs on the tracks will take many more months afterwards, another senior official said.

With another train expected in the coming weeks, both will undergo static tests at the Baiyappanahalli depot, which has been repurposed for the Blue Line.

"For now, the train will be stationed at Baiyappanahalli and undergo tests. By July-end, we expect to run it on the test track connecting the depot and partially to the mainline. Full-fledged trials will start only when the entire line is ready," the official said.

The Blue Line has two corridors: a 19.75-km corridor connecting Silk Board Junction with KR Puram and a 38.44-km corridor linking KR Puram with the airport.

The Silk Board Junction-KR Puram corridor is in advanced stages of construction and its latest deadline is December 2026. By the end of April, track plinth casting was 86.37% complete in Package 1 and 79.23% complete in Package 2. The airport section will open by December 2027.

The official said work was still underway at Marathahalli, Silk Board Junction and some other sections, with recent labour shortages slowing progress.

The new train will not require many statutory approvals because it is similar to the Pink Line trains, six of which have been delivered so far.

"Oscillation certification for the Pink Line trains is expected by June-end. We will then seek rolling stock approval from the Railway Board and other authorities. For Blue Line trains, only oscillation certification will be required. But these trials will begin only in October-November when the tracks are fully ready," the official explained.

BEML will supply 37 trains for the Blue Line, including 21 with luggage racks for the KR Puram-airport section.

IISc links sedentary South B'luru lifestyles to rising health risks

BENGALURU, DHNS: More than half of commuters surveyed along Namma Metro's Yellow Line corridor reported no regular physical activity before the line became operational, while those who switched to the metro gained an estimated 10–15 minutes of additional walking each day, according to a study by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

The study, Assessing the Impact of Yellow Line Mass Rapid Transit System on Public Health and Quality of Life, found that 58% of respondents were physically inactive at baseline, with the highest levels of inactivity recorded among people aged 18–29 years. Their activity levels were well below the World Health Organisation's recommended minimum of 600 MET (Metabolic Equivalent of Task) minutes per week.

Researchers linked this inactivity to elevated rates of hypertension (15%), diabetes (18%), and respiratory illnesses (4.6%) among the surveyed population. Younger respondents also showed signs of pre-diabetes.

According to the study, metro use encouraged incidental physical activity through walking to and from stations, resulting in modest but measurable improvements in daily exercise levels. The assessment, conducted by IISc's Sustainable Transportation Lab with support from the Bengaluru Science and Technology Cluster, surveyed around 600 commuters and households along the 18.82-km corridor between RV Road and Bommasandra.

A follow-up survey involving 150 respondents was carried out six months after metro operations began in August 2025.

The study was led by Ashish Verma, Professor of Transportation Systems Engineering at IISc and Convenor of the IISc Sustainable Transportation Lab.

The report found a significant shift away from private vehicles, particularly two-wheelers and cabs, towards metro travel. Respondents reported shorter, more predictable journeys and lower levels of travel fatigue, reducing overall commute-related stress.

The study highlighted strong links between commuting conditions and mental wellbeing. Statistical analysis showed that travel satisfaction and accessibility were among the strongest predictors of mental health, while commute-related stress had a significant negative impact, Verma said.

Several respondents reported substantial reductions in travel time after switching to the metro, with some journeys shrinking from nearly two hours to about 30 minutes.

"The project outcomes demonstrate the need to consider public transport improvements not just as sustainable mobility solutions, but also as key interventions for improving air quality, public health and overall wellbeing," he said.

COSTLY WIN

Lottery dream ends in Rs 13.71-lakh loss for Bengaluru duo

PRAJWAL D'SOUZA,
BENGALURU, DHNS

Two West Bengaluru residents lost Rs 13.71 lakh in separate fake Kerala Lottery frauds, prompting a cybercrime police investigation.

The victims were a 60-year-old NGO worker from Valagera Halli, who lost Rs 7.45 lakh, and a 52-year-old farmer from Maruthi Nagar, who lost Rs 6.26 lakh.

Police said fraudsters posing as representatives of Kerala Jackpot or Kerala State Lotteries contacted both victims via WhatsApp calls and claimed they had won Rs 8 lakh.

The complainants received a link — thekeralajackpotresult.online — to verify their winnings.

"The website was a fake. It was manipulated by the scammers to show that the victims had won the lottery," a police officer said.

ICANN Lookup records show the domain was registered on April 3, 2025, under the name Dhairya Reddy with a mailing address listed as "Bengaluru, Kerala, 560001", which investigators believe is fake.

While the frauds began in a similar manner, the demands for payment varied as the scam progressed. Both victims received forged Reserve Bank of India (RBI) letters as proof of their supposed winnings.

The NGO worker was asked to pay GST, Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) and Income Tax charges. The farmer was told to pay GST charges and obtain a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the RBI.

Fraudsters also told the farmer that his winnings were in Thai Baht and that he needed to pay currency conversion charges.

Believing the claims, the NGO worker and the farmer transferred Rs 7.45 lakh and Rs 6.26 lakh, respectively, through multiple transactions.

The victims realised they had been cheated after they received no winnings and the fraudsters stopped responding. They then approached the police, who registered separate cases at the West Cyber Crime Police Station. The investigation is underway.

Loopholes in the ban

A blanket ban on lotteries has been in place in Karnataka since 2007. However, people are not explicitly barred from purchasing lottery tickets in states where lotteries are legal. For example, a person from Karnataka can travel to Kerala and purchase a legally sold lottery ticket there. Kerala authorities subject prize claims to strict scrutiny before releasing winnings. Lottery tickets in Kerala are always physical and are never sold online. Reports suggest there have been instances of Kerala lottery tickets being sold illegally in Karnataka despite the ban.

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DH

DECCAN HERALD

The Power of Good

Kohli out of Afghan ODI series, Gaikwad may join squad

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Nation
India, Venezuela vow long-term energy tie-up P.11

Business
Maruti Suzuki launches India's 1st Flex Fuel car P.12

State
SC upholds additional 5% royalty on iron ore P.5

World
Hezbollah rejects conditional truce P.11

DKS picks KBG to handle B'luru, Priyank gets Home

CM keeps finance; Reddy to helm water resources

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Thursday allocated portfolios to his 13-member Cabinet, giving Byatarayanapura MLA Krishna Byre Gowda the challenging task of managing Bengaluru.

The decision to pick Gowda to fix the city triggered speculation that Ramalinga Reddy, the eight-time lawmaker who was eyeing the Bengaluru Urban Development portfolio, would consider stepping down. Reddy has been given the water resources portfolio.

Priyank Kharge, a firebrand Congress ideologue, is now the home minister along with his staple IT/BT portfolio.

Shivakumar has retained the crucial Finance portfolio a day after he appointed retired IAS officer L K Atheeq as his financial adviser.

The announcement came after prolonged efforts by the Congress leadership to persuade Reddy, who was keen on securing Bengaluru Development and is learnt to have resisted accepting any alternative portfolio.

Sources said Reddy reminded Shivakumar of an earlier assurance that the portfolio would be handed over to him midway through the Congress government's term. However, the high command backed the reformist Gowda for the Bengaluru task.

Deputy Chief Minister G Parameshwara was allotted Revenue along with Youth Empowerment and Sports. Parameshwara, who was earlier home minister, wanted a "people-facing" portfolio, sources said.

First-time minister Dr Yathindra Siddaramaiah was given Urban Development, while Byrathi Suresh got Transport.

▸ Cabinet, Page 6

Krishna Byre Gowda

Priyank Kharge

THE NEW CABINET

- **D K Shivakumar:** Finance and Intelligence
- **G Parameshwara:** Revenue and Youth Empowerment
- **K H Muniyappa:** Food and Civil Supplies
- **K J George:** Energy and Tourism
- **Ramalinga Reddy:** Water Resources
- **Satish Jarkiholi:** PWD
- **Yathindra Siddaramaiah:** Urban Development
- **U T Khader:** Health
- **Krishna Byre Gowda:** Bengaluru Development
- **Sharanprakash Patil:** Medical Education
- **Priyank Kharge:** Home and IT-BT
- **Byrathi Suresh:** Transport
- **M B Patil:** Major Industries
- **Eshwar Khandre:** RDPR

DKS flags misuse of guarantees

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Thursday cited instances of misuse of the guarantees such as Gruha Jyothi scheme being used for commercial purposes, and hinted at a relook at the government's flagship guarantees.

However, Shivakumar clarified that this would not be a revision.

Details on Page 4

Secretariat for grievances

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar announced on Thursday that a new secretariat would be formed to resolve people's problems. Addressing a press conference, the CM said: "A new secretariat will be created to listen to people's grievances. A separate minister will be appointed to listen to the petitions, feelings, ideologies and problems of people."

Details on Page 4

Rajesh Exports funds were routed via personal accounts, says Sebi

Accuses B'luru firm of misrepresenting revenue of Rs 15L cr

TEJASWINI S
BENGALURU, DHNS

A day after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) barred Rajesh Mehta, promoter and executive chairman of Rajesh Exports Ltd (REL), from accessing the securities market and alleged large-scale financial misstatements at the company, the Bengaluru-based jewellery exporter on Thursday denied any wrongdoing.

SEBI's Key Observation

97–99% of the company's revenue may be inflated.

- **Rs 15.15 lakh crore** Revenue under question
- **Rs 11,487 cr** transactions with Affluence
- **Rs 338.9 cr** Funds transferred to promoter
- **Rs 565.9 crore** Transfers involving Elest

In its 109-page interim order issued on Wednesday, Sebi alleged that company's funds were routed through personal accounts and promoter-linked entities without adequate disclosures and that corporate transactions were layered in a manner that obscured fund trails. The regulator also restrained Mehta from buying, selling or dealing in securities until further orders.

Sebi alleged that Rajesh Exports prima facie misrepresented revenues of about Rs 15.15 lakh crore, or nearly 99.8% of revenues attributed to subsidiaries and step-down subsidiaries between FY21 and FY25.

This could not be reconciled with the audited standalone financial statements of Swiss gold refinery Valcambi SA, the group's principal operating subsidiary.

It also alleged that the company recorded non-genuine sales and purchase transactions worth more than Rs 11,487 crore each in its standalone financial statements between FY22 and FY24.

Valcambi SA, a precious metals refiner, earns revenue from refining services and the sale of branded bullion products. However, its audited standalone accounts, prepared under Swiss law and audited by KPMG SA, recorded only processing charges or value addition as revenue.

▸ Sebi, Page 6

Mamata must remain supreme leader, say some rebel leaders

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
KOLKATA, DHNS

With several dissident Trinamool Congress legislators either calling her to pledge loyalty or publicly owing allegiance, Mamata Banerjee appears to have achieved some success in containing the rebellion on Thursday, although the beleaguered party remained wary of a revolt by a section of its parliamentarians.

The rebels, who were in touch with Mamata on Thursday, signalled that they would remain loyal to her, but not to her nephew and the TMC general secretary, Abhishek Banerjee, who was blamed for the party's debacle in the assembly elections.

Mamata is likely to attend a meeting of the I.N.D.I.A bloc in New Delhi on Monday, unless, of course, the crisis within her party forces her to change her plans.

After his plea for the status of the Leader of the Opposition, supported by 58 party legislators, had been accepted by Rathindra Bose, the Speaker of the state Assembly, Ritabrata had said on Wednesday that he would request Mamata to guide them as the chief adviser to the TMC legislative party.

But some legislators of the 'Ritabrata Camp' appeared to have changed their stand on Thursday, noting that Mamata Banerjee is the TMC's supremo.

"Didi is our supreme leader, not merely an advisor. We would continue our journey under her leadership," Gulshan Mullick, one of the 58 dissident legislators, told reporters. "We never discussed going forward without her."

"If Mamata is not accepted as the supreme leader, then we will have to think whether we should remain in this bloc or not," Mullick said.

"Didi is our supreme leader and will remain so. She is our leader, not an advisor," Sangeeta Roy Basunia, another rebel legislator, said.

▸ Mamata, Page 6

Mamata Banerjee

1 lakh homes to benefit from OC exemption

BENGALURU, DHNS: The state government's decision to exempt buildings on plots below or equal to the area of 2,400 sq ft from getting an occupancy certificate (OC) will help at least one lakh households get a permanent power connection, sources in Bescom said.

At present, close to 1.5 lakh applications are pending with the Bescom for conversion from temporary to permanent power connection.

However, of these, a few are over the area of 2,400 sq ft and a few others are commercial buildings.

Leaving out these, at least one lakh houses which were struggling to get a power connection will benefit from the announcement.

Details on Page 3B

Quickly

ED arrests Deepak Cables MD in bank fraud case

The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday said that it has arrested the managing director of Deepak Cables India Ltd (DCIL) in connection with a Rs 899 crore bank fraud case.

The arrested accused was identified as Karuturi Venkateshwara Rao. He was held under provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, on June 2, the ED said.

Details on Page 2

Bihar hospital fire claims 5 lives

At least five people were killed and 20 injured in a major fire at a private hospital in Bihar's Muzaffarpur on Thursday.

It is suspected that the fire broke out due to a short circuit in the Intensive Care Unit of Prasad Hospital in the wee hours of Thursday.

Details on Page 10

CEA: Crude oil crisis to contunue

The Chief Economic Adviser, in a presentation to the parliamentary standing committee meeting on Thursday said that the crude oil crisis is likely to continue and that the trade deficit is likely to widen.

Details on Page 11

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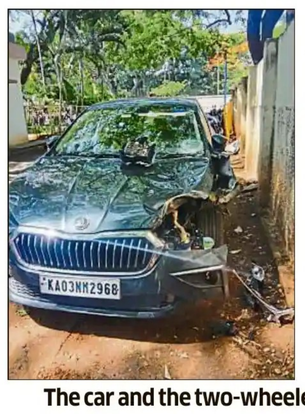
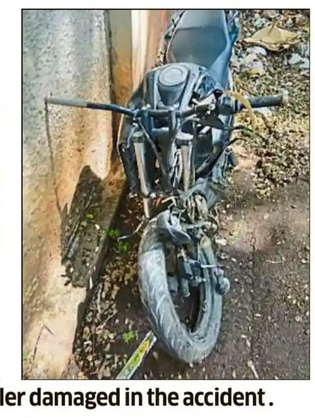
Wrong-way ride ends in tragedy as techie thrown off Marathahalli bridge

BENGALURU, DHNS



The car and the two-wheeler damaged in the accident.

A 26-year-old software engineer died and her colleague sustained serious injuries after the bike they were riding on collided head-on with a car in the HAL Traffic Police Station limits in the early hours of Thursday.

Police said the car driver was allegedly drunk and drove at a high speed.

The deceased 26-year-old Anantapur (Andhra Pradesh) resident Krishnashree, who worked for a software company, was staying at a PG accommodation in Marathahalli's Ashwathnagar.

Preliminary investigations revealed that Krishnashree was riding pillion with Avinash, hailing from Hassan. Their motorcycle was going against one-way traffic on the Marathahalli bridge when the speeding car coming in the opposite direction hit them at 2.15 am.

Krishnashree was thrown off the bike. She flew off the bridge and fell on the service road 15 feet below. She was taken to a nearby private hospital, where doctors declared her brought dead.

A senior police officer said the car driver Suresh, who is also a software engineer, was detained. Police said he was under the influence of alcohol and was driving at a high speed during the accident.

The HAL Traffic Police registered a case for rash and negligent driving under the influence of alcohol against Suresh, who was produced before a magistrate. Police also booked Avinash for riding the motorbike in the wrong direction.

Police handed over Krishnashree's body to her family after post-mortem. Further investigation is on.

Woman driver panics during U-Turn, car crashes into divider

BENGALURU, DHNS: A woman driving a Swift car crashed into a road divider in Hennur on Thursday afternoon, causing brief traffic disruption.

The Hennur traffic police said the woman was attempting a U-turn when she saw a goods vehicle approaching from the opposite direction. She panicked, suddenly applied the brakes and lost control, causing the car to ram into the divider.

The impact damaged the car's front portion. Passersby helped her exit the vehicle safely.

Traffic police arrived at the spot and regulated vehicular movement to prevent further congestion.

A senior police officer said the damaged car was towed and shifted to a garage.

The woman was uninjured, and no other vehicles were involved. With no casualties or complaints, the Hennur traffic police did not register a case.

Onlookers gather around the damaged car in Hennur on Thursday.

Rs 2,000-crore road-relaying push ahead of GBA elections

Large-scale resurfacing plan set to revive key city corridors

BENGALURU, DHNS

Ahead of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) elections, several roads across Bengaluru are set to be resurfaced after Chief Minister DK Shivakumar announced an additional grant of Rs 2,000 crore for roadworks.

Officials said they have begun preparing a list of roads to be taken up for relaying and repairs.

Engineers said priority will be given to roads that have deteriorated due to heavy traffic and recent rains, including those identified by local MLAs.

The fresh allocation comes even as progress remains slow under two major state-funded road infrastructure programmes.

Last year, the government announced Rs 1,241 crore for upgrading major roads and another Rs 1,000 crore for asphalting works.

Officials said disruptions in bitumen supply due to the conflict in West Asia slowed the projects. The government subsequently revised rates to accelerate execution.

According to officials, only about 20% of the sanctioned works under these projects have been completed so far. Progress is expected to slow further during the monsoon season, even as Shivakumar has set a three-month deadline for completion.

This stretch of the Outer Ring Road (ORR) service road in Kasturinagar was asphalted earlier this year, but is now riddled with potholes, despite being covered under the GBA's annual maintenance contract. DH PHOTO/NAVEEN MENEZES

Spending scrutiny

The announcement has drawn criticism from opposition groups.

Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) founder Srikanth Narasimhan questioned the need for fresh allocations without a public accounting of funds already spent on road infrastructure in recent years.

Narasimhan said citizens deserved a transparent account of expenditure on roadworks, including pothole filling, white-topping projects and maintenance activities. "Which roads were completed, what outcomes were achieved, and how public money has been utilised must be disclosed before new allocations are made," he said.

Following recent heavy rains, potholes have reappeared on several roads, including stretches that were asphalted only months ago. For instance, service roads along the Outer Ring Road in Kasturinagar, Ramamurthynagar, Horamavu, Mahadevapura and Marathahalli are riddled with potholes.

ED arrests Deepak Cables Ltd MD in Rs 800-cr bank scam

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday said it arrested the managing director of Deepak Cables India Ltd (DCIL) over a Rs 899-crore bank fraud case.

The suspect, Karuturi Venkateshwara Rao, was arrested on June 2 under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, the ED said.

The agency initiated its investigation based on a CBI FIR against DCIL, its managing director K Venkateshwara Rao, and others, for allegedly cheating a consortium of banks led by SBI of Rs 899.35 crore.

The company is accused of submitting falsified financial statements and manipulating account books to secure and continue availing bank loans, the agency said.

The ED probe revealed that the suspect used multiple entities for fictitious sales and purchases, circular trading, and issuing fake corporate guarantees. These actions artificially inflated turnover, increased drawing power with banks, allowed evergreen loans, and diverted proceeds of crime through related companies and personal accounts, concealing their illicit origin.

The agency further alleged that large sums of loan funds were diverted to entities controlled by Rao without business rationale and for questionable purposes.

"Based on the available evidence, there is sufficient reason to believe that Karuturi Venkateshwara Rao committed the offence of money laundering as defined under Section 3 and punishable under Section 4 of PMLA, 2002. He generated the proceeds of crime, layered and integrated the funds using various bank accounts belonging to entities he operated or was associated with," the ED stated.

The agency produced him before a special court in Bengaluru and obtained custody for 10 days. The ED also reported that searches at various premises connected to DCIL led to the seizure of gold jewellery and Rs 1.27 crore in cash. Bank accounts containing Rs 18 crore were also frozen.

East Corpn chief inspects flood-hit areas, infra projects

Orders drain repairs and speeding up of works in Bengaluru East

BENGALURU, DHNS

Commissioner DS Ramesh inspects flood-affected areas on Thursday, accompanied by engineers.

People wade through rainwater. DH FILE PHOTO

Bengaluru East City Corporation (BECC) Commissioner DS Ramesh on Thursday inspected major flood-prone locations, stormwater drains, underpasses, and ongoing infrastructure projects.

The inspection covered key trouble spots, including Devarabisanahalli, Panathur, Varthur, Thubarahalli, Whitefield and Hope Farm Junction, where recurring waterlogging has caused significant inconvenience to commuters.

At Devarabisanahalli near the metro station, Ramesh observed that recent rains led to water stagnation on roads due to the ongoing metro construction and disruptions in shoulder drain connectivity.

He directed Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) officials to take immediate steps to prevent waterlogging caused by construction activities.

The commissioner noted that medians and barricades installed by the BMRCL were obstructing rainwater flow in certain stretches. Metro officials were instructed to modify these structures to facilitate proper drainage. Representatives of Embassy Group were asked to address rainwater discharge from their campus onto public roads, which officials said contributed to flooding in the area.

During an inspection of the Panathur underpass, where water stagnation was reported following recent showers, Ramesh instructed officials to remove silt and waste from side drains daily and expedite ongoing stormwater drain development work.

At Vibgyor School Road, the commissioner found that soil had been dumped into a roadside drain to facilitate the movement of construction equipment for a buffer road project. He directed contractors to immediately clear the obstruction. While reviewing the Thubarahalli stormwater drain project, Ramesh instructed officials to accelerate its execution.

The commissioner also inspected the flood-prone stormwater drain near Forum Mall in Whitefield and directed officials to remove accumulated silt and waste.

At Varthur Kodi, Ramesh reviewed the ongoing bridge construction work.

The inspection also included a review of land acquisition issues related to the proposed underpass at Hope Farm Junction along Old Madras Road.

Air-conditioned helmets distributed to traffic personnel in North Corpn limits

BENGALURU, DHNS : The Bengaluru North City Corporation (BNCC), in collaboration with C40 Cities, Sensing Local, and Hasiru Dala, organised a pilot programme titled 'Heat-Health Protocol', under which traffic police personnel were educated on heat-related health issues and provided with 20 air-conditioned helmets.

The BNCC launched the initiative in response to rising temperatures in the city and the increasing risk of heat-related illnesses among outdoor workers.

"As part of the pilot, traffic police personnel were educated about the effects of extreme heat, heat-related health issues, and necessary precautionary measures. To support their health and well-being, 20 air-conditioned (cooling) helmets were distributed," the BNCC said in a statement.

BNCC Commissioner Pomala Sunil Kumar said the corporation plans to expand the programme based on feedback from beneficiaries.

"Similar cooling kits had earlier been distributed to BNCC pourakarmikas, ASHA workers, and dry waste collection centre workers. The initiative has now been extended to traffic police personnel. Feedback on the usage and effectiveness of the kits will be collected, and steps will be taken to expand the programme to benefit a larger number of personnel in the future," he said.

Man arrested for molesting woman

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 28-year-old man has been arrested by the Koramangala police for molesting a woman near a gym in broad daylight.

On Tuesday, around 1.15 pm, the accused, Harish, a resident of Agara, who is unemployed, went behind the 27-year-old woman, employed with a private firm, as she was about to enter the gym in Koramangala 1st Block. The complaint stated that he misbehaved with her.

As she resisted and attempted to contact the police, he reportedly snatched her iPhone and smashed it on the ground. He assaulted her and fled the scene.

The shocked victim lodged a complaint with the Koramangala police. Police traced him with the help of CCTV evidence, arrested him on Wednesday, and handed him over to the judicial custody.

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED JUIDCO
(A Government of Jharkhand Undertaking)
JUIDCO Bhawan, Kutchery Chowk, Ranchi-834001
E-Mailid - pdt.juidco@gmail.com, juidcolimited@gmail.com
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

PR Ref No: 369805
NIT No: JUIDCO/NIT/H to B/Road/RNC/683
Tender ID: 2026_UDD_108511_1
Name of the work: Resurfacing/ Refurbishing work of Road from Hinoo Chowk to Birsa Chowk in Ranchi Jharkhand

The tender for the work "**Resurfacing/ Refurbishing work of Road from Hinoo Chowk to Birsa Chowk in Ranchi Jharkhand**" (**JUIDCO/NIT/H to B/Road/RNC/683**; bearing Tender ID: **2026_UDD_108511_1**) is hereby cancelled due to unavoidable reasons. All bidders are requested to wait for fresh notification in this regard.

Sd/-
Project Director (Technical)
JUIDCO Ltd., Ranchi.

PR 381541 Urban Development and Housing(26-27)D

SHIFTING OF CLS PANEL TO NEW EI BUILDING OVER TINSUKIA DIVISION

Tender Notice No.: TSK/Elect/240 of 29-05-2026; E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work; **SN-1; Tender No.:** LV-T-14-TSK-926-R; **Brief Description of Item :** Shifting of CLS panel to New EI Building at 7 Nos of Stations (Sripuriagaon, Simaluguri Jn., Amguri, Nakachari, Titabar, New Tinsukia, Tinsukia). **Tender Value:** ₹56,86,010.10/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹1,13,700/-; Date & time of **closing** of tender at **13:00** hrs. and **opening** at **15:00** hrs. on **19-06-2026**. Complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available up to **13:00** hrs. on **19-06-2026** in the website **www.ireps.gov.in**

DRM (Elect), Tinsukia
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites tender of parcel handling operations, for participation through the GeM Portal.

Tender for awarding the contract of Parcel Handling Activities of loading, unloading and shifting of non-leased/departmental parcels/luggage between various Platforms & Parcel Offices and vice-versa at Bengaluru, Yesvantpur, Sir M Visveswaraya Terminus & Yelahanka Railway Stations over Bengaluru Division, South Western Railway.

Last date for submission of bids: **16.06.2026**

For details, log on: https://gem/gov/in

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
Bengaluru

PUB/183/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2026-27

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South Western Railway · SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

Government of jharkhand
Executive Engineer, National Highway division, chaibasa
Road Construction Department, jharkhand

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT No. NH/CHAIBASA/PBMC/01/2026-27 **Dated 27.05.2026**

Application in the prescribed format eligible contractors for Request for proposal for Performance based Maintenance Contracts (PBMC) mode is invited for following project in two bid systems, (Technical & Financial).

SL No.	Name of works	State	Length (In km)	Estimated cost including LC and excluding GST	Cost of RFP Document (In Rs.)	Bid Security (In Lakh)	Contract Duration (Month)
1	PBMC work of NH-220(Old NH-75E) from KM 176.220 to KM 202.9 (Total Length = 26.68) in the state of Jharkhand for the year 2026-27.	Jharkhand	26.68	1820.97848	10,000/- (RFP) & 1,800 (GST)	18.60	60

Note – GST amount will be paid as per Government Norms applicable from time to time
Important Dates.

1	Date of Issue of Notice Inviting RFP	:	27.05.2026
2	Last Date of Receiving Quarries	:	05.06.2026
3	Pre-Bid Meeting at venue (as mentioned in RFP)	:	10.06.2026 at 12:30 Hrs
4	Authority Response to Queries Latest by	:	12.06.2026
5	Period of State of Bid Document	:	From 01.06.2026 12:00 Hrs to 15.06.2026 upto 17:00 HRs Through official portal of : [https://eprocure.gov.in]
6	Bid Due Date	:	Date 15.06.2026 Up to 17:00 HRS Through official portal of : [https://eprocure.gov.in
7	Last date of Physical submission of bid security, POA and other document in original	:	16.06.2026 up to 15:00 HRS
8	Time and Date of Opening Technical Bid (RFP)	:	Date 16.06.2026 15:00 HRS Through official portal of : https://eprocure.gov.in]
9	Time and Date of Opening Financial Bid	:	To be notify. Through official portal of : [https://eprocure.gov.in]
10	Please of Opening of Bids	:	Office of the Chief Engineer, National Highway Wing, Jharkhand, Ranchi Through official portal of : [https://eprocure.gov.in]
11	Bid Validity	:	120 Days From the Bid Due Date.
12	Officer Inviting Bids	:	Executive Engineer, National Highway Division, Chaibasa

Executive Engineer,
National Highway Division,Chaibasa.

PR 381485 (West Singhbhum)26-27*D

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

For and on behalf of the President of India, the Chief Engineer (CON)/II, South Eastern Railway, Garden Reach, Kolkata-700043 invites E-tender for the following work. Following tender has been uploaded on website **www.ireps.gov.in**. The tender will be closed **at 12.00 hrs.** on due date. **e-Tender Notice No.: 4583-GRC-CE-C-II-17-2025, Date: 03.06.2026. Brief Description of work:** Request for Proposal (RFP) for Appointment of Authority Engineer for Providing Project Management Services for Sini-Kandra 3rd & 4th Line (21.85 Km) & Dangoaposi-Jaroli 3rd & 4th Line (85.88 Km) of South Eastern Railway on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) basis. **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 19.25 Crore. **Bid Security:** ₹ 38,50,400. **Completion Period:** Construction period 48 months + 6 months Defect Liability Period. **Closing Date:** 02.07.2026. Interested tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tender for this item will be accepted. **N.B.:** Prospective bidders may regularly visit **www.ireps.gov.in** to participate in all other tenders. **(PR-273)**

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Tender No. & date: SC/CM.186. C&W.UMB.CCTV.DEPOTS/PH-1 Dated: 01.06.2026 PUB/342

Sr. DME/Co-ord/SC acting for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tender for the below mentioned work upto 11.00 hrs of 25.06.2026

Tender No. and Date: SC/CM.186. C&W.UMB.CCTV.DEPOTS/PH-1 Dated: 01.06.2026. **Name of the work**: Supply, Installation and commissioning of CCTV Surveillance system at C&W Depots/Kazipet and C&W Freight depot / Ramagundam of SC Division with a warranty period of 02 years. **Estimated Value of the Tender (₹):** 44,10,050.58, **EMD Value (₹):** 88,200.00, **Tender Type:** Open Tender, **Completion of the work:** Six months + Warranty period of 02 years, **Last date of submission of bids:** 25.06.2026 by 11.00 hrs

The Tenderers should participate through e-tendering only and no manual offers may be considered. The Tender conditions / other details, Tender document, Corrigendum are available on the IREPS website **https://www.ireps.gov.in.** The Tender notice is also displayed in the Notice board located in the office of the Sr. DME/Co-ord/SC, which can be seen on all working days.

Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer/ Co-ord/Secunderabad
A411

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at http://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Woman, lover arrested for killing husband, burying body near lake

BENGALURU, DHNS: A woman and her lover have been arrested by the Rajanukunte police for killing her husband and burying his body near a lake in Linganahalli in the city outskirts.

The deceased 25-year-old Abhijit Pandit, a native of West Bengal and working as a security guard, got married to 21-year-old Archana Chauhan three years ago after they fell in love.

But they fought frequently after Abhijit learnt about Archana's relationship with 26-year-old security guard, Parul Pal.

On May 27, the day the murder took place, Archana lodged a missing person complaint with the Rajanukunte police.

She claimed that Abhijit was missing for a week.

During the investigation, police questioned Pal, who confessed to the crime.

He told the police that two of his friends had consumed alcohol with Abhijit and strangled him with a rope.

Archana was aware of the plot and supported Pal.

After the murder, the accused buried the body near Linganahalli.

Based on the information revealed by Pal, police recovered Abhijit's decomposed body and sent it for post-mortem.

Two more accused are still at large, police said.

Man killed over affair

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 45-year-old man was stabbed to death allegedly after a dispute over his relationship with the suspect's wife.

Police said the deceased Akram Pasha, a dealer of car interior designing items residing in Devaraj Urs Colony near JJ Nagar, was brutally stabbed to death by the suspect and his associates who waylaid him as he was heading home after work between 11.30 pm and 12 am on Thursday.

Pasha was declared dead at the hospital. JJ Nagar police registered a case under BNS Section 103 (murder).

"The deceased was in a relationship with the wife of the prime suspect. A probe is underway to trace him and other suspects," police said.

Ragpicker arrested for trying to rape student

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 27-year-old ragpicker has been arrested by the Whitefield police for attempting to rape a student who was on her way to a tea stall in the early hours of Tuesday.

Saifal Mondal, a native of West Bengal, allegedly followed the 23-year-old Kerala student when she stepped out of her PG And walked alone on the main road in Whitefield. He then lifted her and took her to an isolated road and attempted to sexually assault her.

When she screamed, alerted residents rushed to the spot, causing Mondal to flee. The student lodged a complaint with the Whitefield police.

Based on her complaint, the police arrested Mondal and handed him over to judicial custody.

One of the dogs during the retirement ceremony on Thursday. SWR

Trained in explosive detection, two sniffer dogs retire from RPF service

BENGALURU, DHNS: Two sniffer canines, Arjun and Amar, were ceremonially retired on Thursday after serving on the Railway Protection Force (RPF) for more than a decade.

Trained in explosive detection, the dogs played a crucial role in ensuring the safety and security of railway passengers, railway property and vital installations, according to the South Western Railway (SWR).

Amar represented the RPF on three occasions at the All India RPF Dog Competitions, securing two silver medals.

It also won three silver medals at zonal-level RPF dog competitions. Arjun was deployed for bandobast duties during important railway events and public gatherings.

BWSSB to set up Bengaluru Global Water Innovation Network

Aims at sustainable urban water management

Ramprasat Manohar V

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is planning to establish the Bengaluru Global Water Innovation Network (BGWIN), a global collaboration platform that will bring together water utilities, government agencies, universities, research institutions, industry leaders, startups, incubators, investors, and civil society organisations to address emerging challenges in the water and wastewater sector.

According to a statement from the BWSSB, the initiative is designed to strengthen Bengaluru's position as a global leader in urban water management by fostering innovation, accelerating technology adoption, promoting international collaboration, and building a future-ready ecosystem capable of addressing the growing challenges posed by rapid urbanisation, climate change, and resource scarcity.

"The establishment of BGWIN marks a historic step towards transforming Bengaluru into a global centre for water innovation. Through cutting-edge technology, international collaboration, and sustainable urban planning, we are building a future-ready city capable of meeting the challenges of the coming decades," said Chief Minister DK Shivakumar.

As part of the initiative, a Centre of Excellence will be established to house a Technology Innovation Hub. It will focus on advanced research in artificial intelligence-driven predictive analytics, smart metering systems, decentralised water treatment technologies, water reuse solutions, and next-generation utility management practices.

"BGWIN will provide a world-class platform for startups, researchers, technology companies, and water utilities to collaborate and innovate. This is not merely a technology initiative; it is our commitment to creating a secure, sustainable, and resilient water future for generations to come while contributing to the global Sustainable Development Goals," said Ramprasat Manohar V, Chairman, BWSSB.

One of the key features of BGWIN will be its emphasis on pilot-scale deployment of emerging technologies before city-wide implementation.

BGWIN is being conceptualised as a diversified financial model that blends international grants, philanthropic funding, government support, private-sector partnerships, subscription-based memberships, paid training programmes, and innovation-led revenue streams to ensure long-term sustainability and scalable impact.

"By testing innovations in real-world operating conditions, the BWSSB aims to reduce investment risks, improve technology adoption outcomes, and accelerate the transition towards smarter and more efficient utility operations. The initiative is also expected to open new opportunities for revenue generation through intellectual property development, technology licensing, and commercialisation of innovations emerging from collaborative research programmes," a senior BWSSB official explained.

A dedicated digital platform will support real-time collaboration between technology providers and utility operators while enabling continuous monitoring of pilot projects and innovation outcomes.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

High Court of Karnataka and Forest Department: Inauguration of drive to plant 5 crore saplings; Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice Anu Sivaraman; Karnataka Veterinary Council, Hebbal; 9.15 am.

Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences: World Environment Day celebrations; Lalbagh West Gate; from 7.30 am.

Aam Admi Party: Roundtable conference on waste management in Bengaluru; Sitarama Gundappa, Usha Mohan, Satish Kumar, Rajesh Babu, Vijay Nishanth and others; Vinoba Hall, Gandhi Bhavan; from 10.30 am.

CULTURAL

Numark Art Series and Bijapur Harmonium Foundation: Raga Sandhana-Kannada music by Ravindra Gururaj Katoti, Korgi Shankaranarayana Upadhyaya, Siddharth Belmannu, Deepti Radhakrishna and Deepika Bhat; 6.30 pm.

Payana: Staging of the play 'Namgen Belene Ilva', directed by Arun Surya; Seva Sadana, Malleswaram; 7.15 pm.

Kushala Kala: Staging of the play 'Srihari Murali'; Samsa Open-air Theatre, Ravindra Kalakshetra; 4 pm.

Centre for Peace and Performing Arts: Rhythms of Life-Classical music and dance, Astha Mohapatra, Bysali Mohanti, Raksha Kartik and Ranjani Mitra; Jagruti Theatre, Vartur Main Road, Whitefield; 7.30 pm.

Rangashankara: Staging of the play 'Java', directed by S Surendranath; 7.30 pm.

RELIGIOUS

Ragigudda Sri Prasanna Anjaneya Swamy Temple Bhaktamandali Trust: Discourse on 'Sanatana Dharma and Science' by Mohan Gowda; Temple premises; 6.30 pm.

Invites to be published in this column should be sent to: **incitytoday@ deccanherald.co.in.** Please note that hard copies will not be accepted

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers

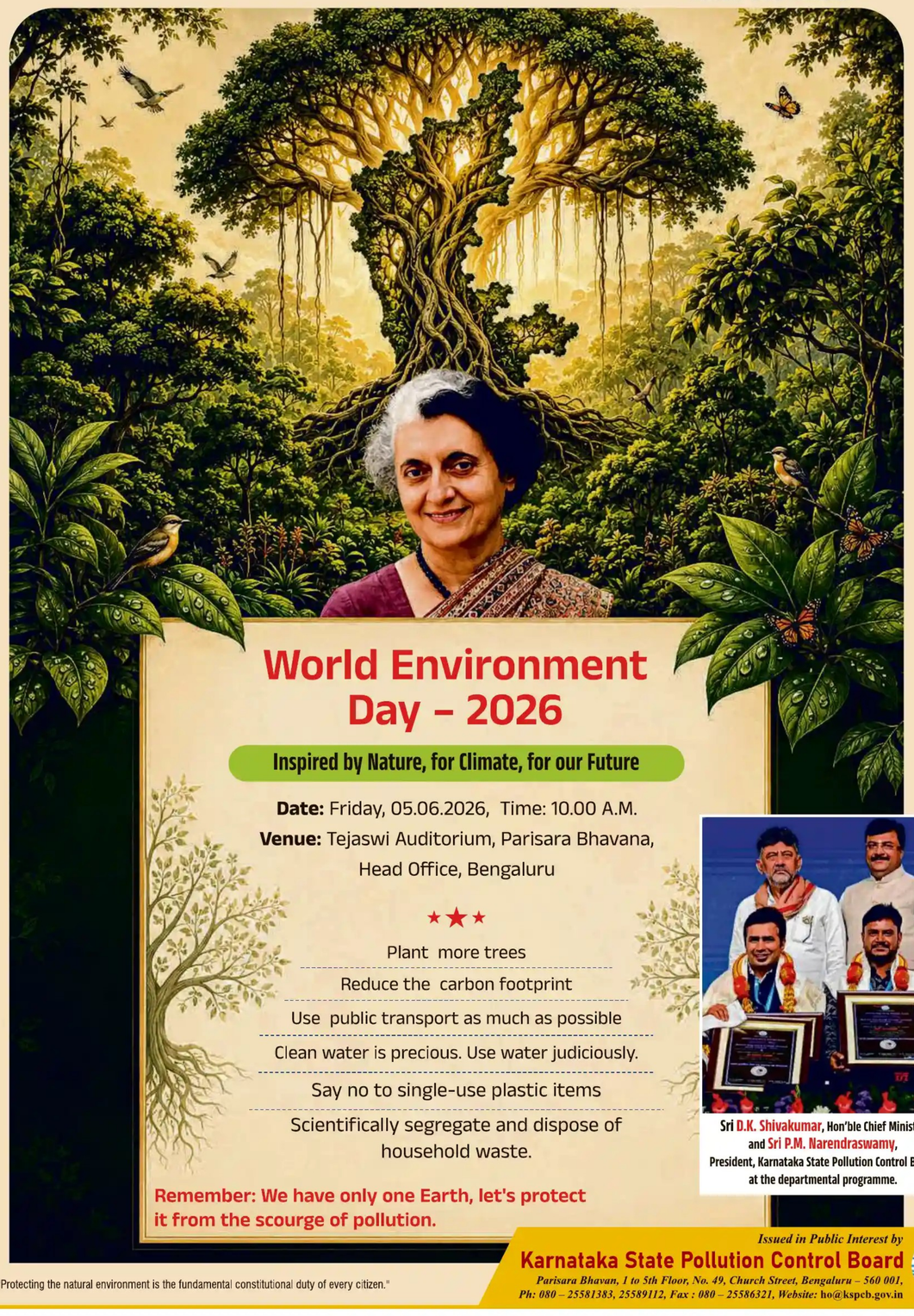
TEMPERATURES

Maximum	31.2°C
Minimum	20.9°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity(as of 5:30 pm)	54%
Sunset (June 5)	6:43 pm
Sunrise (June 6)	5:52 am
Moonrise	10:06 pm
Moonset	8:54 am

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board

Sri D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Chief Minister



World Environment Day – 2026

Inspired by Nature, for Climate, for our Future

Date: Friday, 05.06.2026, Time: 10.00 A.M.
Venue: Tejaswi Auditorium, Parisara Bhavana, Head Office, Bengaluru

★★★

Plant more trees
Reduce the carbon footprint
Use public transport as much as possible
Clean water is precious. Use water judiciously.
Say no to single-use plastic items
Scientifically segregate and dispose of household waste.

Remember: We have only one Earth, let's protect it from the scourge of pollution.

Sri D.K. Shivakumar, Hon'ble Chief Minister and Sri P.M. Narendraswamy, President, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board at the departmental programme.

"Protecting the natural environment is the fundamental constitutional duty of every citizen."

Issued in Public Interest by
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
Parisara Bhavan, 1 to 5th Floor, No. 49, Church Street, Bengaluru – 560 001,
Ph: 080 – 25581383, 25589112, Fax : 080 – 25586321, Website: ho@kspcb.gov.in

Hearty Congratulations

Shri **DK Shivakumar**
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Karnataka

Decisive. Dynamic. Dedicated.

Your leadership, dedication to public service and visionary outlook have inspired millions.

As you guide the historic and progressive state of Karnataka towards greater heights of development, innovation and social welfare, we wish you a highly successful and glorious tenure.

Shri **UT Khader**
Cabinet Minister, Karnataka

A Leader and Statesman

We salute a legendary administrator known for grace, integrity and decorum. Your administrative wisdom & experience across vital portfolios ensures a golden period of governance for the people of Karnataka.

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SOAKED ALMONDS TO LUXE VILLAS

New problem solvers of city's elite

Lifestyle managers are emerging as a go-to support for busy, affluent families

BARKHA KUMARI
TEAM METROLIFE

Some of Bengaluru's wealthiest are now adding a lifestyle manager to their roster of support staff, which already includes cooks, housekeepers, drivers and nannies. Their role is to handle errands, logistics and special requests. As these clients lead busy, high-pressure lives, the goal is to free up clients' time and mental space so they can focus on work, family and other priorities.

Looking for a villa in a new city, a mechanic in the remote hills, or an autograph from a popular YouTuber for your child? Need a name updated on a passport? Or, someone to look after your elderly parents' medical needs while you are away? Want a luxury door latch installed, security protocols strengthened, or your water bottles stocked and soaked almonds ready every morning? A lifestyle manager takes care of all this and more. It sounds similar to what a personal assistant or concierge service does. But companies offering lifestyle management services in Bengaluru see it differently.

The team at Gurugram-based Pinch says it is bringing the professionalism of concierge services into everyday household operations rather than limiting it to occasional or luxury requests.

Barnik Guha Neogi checks a bookshelf at a UHNI client's residence in Indiranagar to ensure everything is organised and dusted. PIC: PINCH

Vipul Chauhan, director of strategy and operations of Elite Butlers, based in Delhi-NCR, argues that the role has become more personalised and intuitive than earlier. Dipali Sikand, founder of Bengaluru-based Club Concierge, explains: "A concierge may book a restaurant, but a lifestyle manager keeps in mind that a family prefers vegetarian food, quiet seating, easy parking, and that one member has difficulty climbing stairs."

Lifestyle managers often come from hospitality, aviation, retail and events backgrounds. Some have worked in luxury hotels, on private jets and in royal households, catering to ultra-high-net-worth individuals (UHNIs) and VIPs, including business leaders, diplomats and CXOs. They are being hired through yearly memberships starting at Rs 1 lakh or monthly plans ranging from Rs 19,000 for remote assistance to Rs 25,000 with home visits included.

Arjun Singh Choudhary manages the household of a UHNI businessman in south Bengaluru. Engaged by Elite Butlers, the 33-year-old describes the role as challenging but rewarding. Some days, he recruits cooks, drivers and shopping assistants while conducting background checks. On others, he is searching for reversible curtains in a specific fabric and brand or sourcing crockery embossed with the client's company logo.

Barnik Guha Neogi, who assists about eight clients across Koramangala, Indiranagar and Jayanagar for Pinch, describes a similar routine. He begins each day by checking with household staff: Is the menu ready? Do groceries need ordering? Has the dog been walked? Are the clothes ironed? He follows up until everything is done. From there, it can be anything: paying coconut vendors, coordinating a microwave repair, completing flight web check-ins or inspecting a client's garden. "We save 3-4 hours of a client's time every day," he says.

No request is too unusual. Arjun's former client in Bengaluru wanted a flush toilet with "the maximum number of features". After visiting five sanitaryware showrooms over a week, he found the right fixture, priced at around Rs 25 lakh.

And no request is too late. Recently, Barnik arranged a replacement bartender for a client's party after the original hire failed to show up and guests had already begun arriving. On another occasion, he stayed up past midnight arranging spare house keys and an airport pickup for a client who realised, just two hours before landing in Bengaluru, that he had lost his keys.

Troubleshooting is a key part of the job. Vipul, who previously worked as a lifestyle manager in Bengaluru, recalls a client whose clothes shrunk every time they were sent to the laundry, even at five-star hotels. "We finally met the brands he bought them from, and learned that the wool required special care," he says. In another instance, a client was so unhappy with arrangements on a yacht booked for a family holiday in Goa that he walked off. "It was a long weekend, and every yacht was booked. Still, I kept calling vendors and managed to find another one by 4 am," Vipul says.

But they all say the most important skill is anticipating a client's needs. It could mean checking whether a client needs swimwear ordered for a hotel stay or replacing a broken electric kettle before being asked.

While some teams have fixed duty hours, others, like Club Concierge, operate 24/7 in shifts. "Our clients travel across the world. Someone may need a recommendation for a club in Korea, or there could be an emergency at home," reasons Samar Singh Rathore, director of operations.

REAL NEED OR STATUS SIGNALLING?

Vipul says Bengaluru is among the top three Indian cities adopting lifestyle managers. Dipali believes the demand stems partly from aspiration and partly from "time poverty". "People are busier, families are smaller, traffic consumes hours, domestic help can be unreliable, and while apps deliver services, they don't take responsibility," she says. According to Pinch's 'Task vs City' report, Bengaluru leads Mumbai and Delhi in the culture of "outsourcing" everyday chores, with 34.7% demand coming from functional tasks such as bill payments and repairs, and 33.5% from domestic needs, including home maintenance.

Harish Prabhath and Deepashree Harish essay the lead roles of the Prince and Cinderella.

A fairytale with Kannada twist returns next Saturday

The 49-year-old play is cherished for its message of humanity and compassion

TINI SARA ANIEN
TEAM METROLIFE

Nearly five decades after it first premiered, 'Cinderella' returns to the stage next weekend, bringing with it a legacy that spans generations of theatre-goers in the city.

Presented by the Bengaluru-based theatre group Prabhath Kalavidaru, the production was first staged in 1977 under the direction of the late T V Gopinath Das. Since then, it has been performed more than 1,000 times and was last staged in 2023.

While the storyline has remained unchanged, the production has evolved in its technical presentation. What began with projected lighting effects on a white backdrop now incorporates LED walls, laser projections, and aerial acts.

"The musical score, originally composed by Mysore Ananthaswamy, was later re-recorded by Praveen D Rao. The production's soundtrack includes two numbers sung by the late renowned playback singer S P Balasubrahmanyam," says Harish Prabhath, director of the theatre group.

The 90-minute musical features more than 50 performers on stage.

Unlike other adaptations, this version carries a distinctly local flavour. Gopinath Das introduced original Kannada characters such as Mantravadi, Kodangi, Drishti Devi and Shabdha Devi, weaving Indian theatrical elements into the European fairytale. Harish says, "The production's enduring appeal lies in its message of humanity and compassion, embodied by Cinderella's forgiveness of those who mistreat her."

On June 13, 7 pm, at Ravindra Kalakshetra, J C Road. For details, call 94482 00676/94485 74370.

50th edition of farmer carnival

The monthly gathering has evolved into a platform for community-driven initiatives

SUBHASHINI RAMASAMY
TEAM METROLIFE

Visitors at a previous edition of the BCC carnival.

Bangalore Creative Circus (BCC) will host the 'Big 50,' the 50th edition of its monthly carnival. The first edition of the event was held in February 2022 and has since been hosted on the first Sunday of every month.

What began as an effort to connect conscious consumers with farmers now features small businesses, workshops, live performances and crafting. It has been tackling topics such as climate crisis, thrifting, and mindful consumption. While the carnival saw about 20 stalls and 100 to 150 visitors in its early days, the number has steadily grown and now has over 30 stalls and 350 visitors.

Manisha Vinod, co-founder, BCC, says that the heart of the carnival lies in the community that it has built. "Many visitors, volunteers and vendors return edition after edition," she shares, adding that vendor collaborations are commonplace. With producers learning new skills from fellow entrepreneurs and businesses coming together to create new offerings. She recalls how a cacao producer picked up the skill of chocolate making from a fellow vendor and began selling chocolates eventually.

One can browse through fresh produce, millet mixes, ferments and baked delicacies while also discovering upcycled clothes and accessories, painting tote bags and playing traditional games.

June 6, 4 pm to 10 pm and June 7, 12 pm to 7 pm, at Bangalore Creative Circus, Yeshwanthpur. Entry free. Details on @blrcreativecircus on Instagram.

The park that holds a city

Suresh Jayaram's new book explores Cubbon Park through the lens of citizens

SUBHASHINI RAMASAMY
TEAM METROLIFE

Visitors enchanted by a beautiful pink trumpet tree in Cubbon Park.

Suresh Jayaram

Cubbon Park, a beloved spot for Bengalureans, means something different to everyone who walks through it. Author Suresh Jayaram has spent three-and-a-half years piecing together those meanings. In his latest book, 'Cubbon Park: Citizens' Perspectives and Many Visions for the Future,' Suresh documents conversations with a diverse set of people, including lawyer Arvind Narrain, transgender activist Akkai Padmashali, professor Janaki Nair, landscape experts, artists and even the park's former chief gardener.

Suresh, who likens himself to a sutradhar or storyteller, paints a portrait of the place that is more nuanced than a mere jogger's paradise. The park, established in 1870 as an English garden for the British, gradually became a refuge for locals. "As Janaki Nair points out, other cities have taken away the colonial cultures, while we, out of respect or nostalgia, have retained statues of Queen Victoria and King Edward VII," says Suresh. From sex workers and the LGBTQIA+ community to protesters and artists, the park became a space where everyone could exist freely. But surveillance measures, restrictions and encroachment have changed what the beloved public space once looked like. "Gentrification is the new colonisation," says Suresh. He recalls a simpler time when he would buy roasted corn and sit on the steps of Vidhana Soudha with friends, now impossible with all the restrictions.

At his lecture, 'The Many Lives of Cubbon Park: Nature, Memory and Citizen Resistance,' at the National Gallery of Modern Art on June 5, Suresh hopes to leave people with questions: What is the Century Club's story? How was Vidhana Soudha built? Who is the German architect behind Bal Bhavan?

The Many Lives of Cubbon Park: Nature, Memory and Citizen Resistance, June 5, 5 pm onwards, at National Gallery of Modern Art, Palace Road. Entry free. No registration required.

CITY MIX

Workshop by Grammy-nominated singer

Param will host a music workshop with Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Varijashree Venugopal. 'Let's Jam with Varijashree Venugopal' is designed as a practical session on jamming for both vocalists and instrumentalists. It will focus on how to make tasteful musical choices, and blend within an ensemble.

On June 7, 11 am and 2 pm, at Prestige Centre for the Performing Arts, Konanakunte. Tickets on in.bookmyshow.com

Adaptation of 'Anatomy of a Suicide' comes to town

Pune-based theatre person and filmmaker Mohit Takalkar has adapted Alice Birch's acclaimed play 'Anatomy of a Suicide'. Produced by Aasakta Kalamanch, the play will be staged on June 6, at 3.30 pm and 7.30 pm, at Ranga Shankara, J P Nagar.

Regarded as one of the most important contemporary plays, it explores the weight of intergenerational trauma. It follows the lives of three generations of women, Carol, Anna and Bonnie. Actors Faezeh Jalali, Amba Suhasini Jhala and Mallika Singh Hanspal play Carol, Anna and Bonnie respectively.

For tickets, look up in.bookmyshow.com

Celebrating women musicians across genres

Artistes Sanoli Chowdhury, Ro Maiti and Sahana Naresh will perform in the first edition of 'Femme Power', an event celebrating women in music across genres. They will experiment with multilingual indie-pop, electronic music, and Indian classical influences.

On June 7, 9 pm, at The Humming Tree, Indiranagar. Visit @the_hummingtree on Instagram.

Folk tradition of Jogappa community in focus

Sacred Rhythms, Living Histories of Jogappa Community' will be held on June 6, 6 pm, at Museum of Art and Photography on Kasturba Road. The identity of the centuries-old community is tied to its devotion to Goddess Yellamma. The show, featuring members from the community, will bring together traditional music and storytelling which will offer a look at their culture.

For details, visit map-india.org

To get your event listed, write to metrolife@deccanherald.co.in

Modi-Meloni incident drives up earring sales

VISHESH AITHAL
TEAM METROLIFE

A Bengaluru-based startup has gained traction after PM Narendra Modi gifted his Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni a box of Melody sweets. Called Rainbow Hues, they aim to sell 'wearable nostalgia' through acrylic jewellery modelled after 90s kids' favourite treats. Among their products is the 'Melody' earrings, which saw a 40% spike in sales after the Modi-Meloni incident. "The earrings were sold out within 24 hours of the incident and it took about a week to restock them. We are currently restocking them for the third time," recalled 36-year-old Rebecca Mendonza, the brand's founder.

Some of their other popular earrings are modelled after sweets like Kismi, Hajmola and Kaccha Mango Bite. They are also planning to launch earring replicas of Lays and other Indian snacks.

Over 100 'Melody' earrings were sold after PM Modi gifted a box of Melody sweets to Giorgia Meloni.

Bhoomi Habba to connect with Earth

VIBHA S BHAT
TEAM METROLIFE

Visthar, an NGO located on Hennur Main Road, will host the 18th edition of Bhoomi Habba, a festival that focuses on ecological consciousness. The event will follow the theme 'Restore, Reclaim: Community paths to climate action'. "World Environment Day is an urgent reminder of our fractured connection to the Earth," says Mercy Kappen, trustee and strategic advisor, Visthar. The festival is designed as a catalyst to help heal this disconnect, enabling ecological consciousness to emerge through shared experiences. The event will host a mix of live music, workshops and interactive activities. On the line-up are concerts by musicians Dominic D'Cruz and Balu Djembe. One can also expect a cartooning workshop, a film festival and traditional Indian games. The campus will also host stalls featuring climate-resilient foods, organic produce and ethical fashion.

June 6, 10 am to 7 pm, at Visthar, Hennur Main Road. Details on @visthar_trust_ on Instagram.

Once Upon a FRAME

The old building of the Upparpet police station with its no-nonsense utilitarian structure under construction in 1964. (DH ARCHIVES/T L RAMASWAMY)

The present structure looks less Stasi-era and more welcoming with its tiled roof and potted plants at the entrance. DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN

If Bengaluru's police stations could narrate stories, Upparpet, one of the oldest, would have enough for several seasons of a crime thriller. Perched at the edge of the old pete, it has watched the city reinvent itself around Majestic's crowded bus stands, railway platforms and cinema halls. In the 1980s and 90s, the neighbourhood was a magnet for counterfeit electronics, pirated movie CDs and every shade of grey-market enterprise, centred around the deceptively named National Market and Burma Bazaar. Interstate fugitives were common since Majestic was the transit hub, as were gambling dens, betting rackets and covert dance clubs. All of these, one imagines, kept the officers perpetually in cat-and-mouse mode. The station's history may be overshadowed by its neighbour, the historic Seshadripuram police station, but its stories have long since become Bengaluru folklore.

Once Upon A Frame
is a monthly column that revisits Bengaluru through then-and-now photographs, pairing archival images with frames from the same spots today. From vanished facades to surviving street corners, readers are invited to send in old photographs, memories, and suggestions for places they would like us to revisit across the city.
Write to
metrolife@deccanherald.co.in

OC exemption: One lakh homes to get permanent power connection

Bescom officials awaiting guidelines from UDD

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

The state government's decision to exempt buildings on plots below or equal to the area of 2,400 sq ft from getting an Occupancy Certificate (OC) will help at least one lakh households get a permanent power connection, sources in Bescom said.

At present, close to 1.5 lakh applications are pending with the Bescom for conversion from temporary to permanent power connection. However, of these, a few are over the area of 2,400 sq ft and a few others are commercial buildings. Leaving out these, at least one lakh houses which were struggling to get a power connection will benefit from the announcement.

"The applications which have an OC and other documents are being processed immediately. Those pending are only those which do not have such documents," a senior Bescom official said.

According to sources, many households have been waiting to get a power connection for over a year now. "Many households applied for connection back in April-May 2025. However, since we had to adhere to the Supreme Court directive, the applications have been kept pending. Many of them will now get a power connection," a senior Bescom official said.

However, the Urban Development Department (UDD) is yet to issue a detailed order on the eligibility criteria. Shivakumar, on Wednesday, made it clear that this will be one-time approval and only those who have applied for power connection before May 31 will be eligible. While this will provide a relief for the citizens, many are worried if there would be a fee for regularisation as is the case with B to A Khata conversion. "We are relieved that the government has heard our problem and finally given us a solution. I have been waiting for over a year now, paying up high charges for temporary power connection. To add to this, as is, power connection charges are also high. We hope this regularisation is not charged," said Raghav R, a resident of JP Nagar.

While many have kept their newly constructed houses vacant owing to lack of power connection, a few others are paying nearly double their electricity bill since they are using temporary power connections.

The Bescom officials are awaiting detailed guidelines from the UDD to go ahead with processing the applications.

Many electrical contractors who have been denied payments owing to non approval of power connection said that this could help more than a lakh people.

"Over the last year, applications have piled up. Though the government initially gave a relief for buildings on 1,200 sq ft or lower plots, there are many other buildings waiting for approval. A part of our payment is credited only after completion of approvals and permanent power connection. Though we had finished all the work from our end, in many cases, we were denied payments. The one time OC exemption will help over a lakh households," said Mahesh M, an electrical contractor.

The move is also expected to bring in good revenue to Bescom owing to the collection of power connection charges.

Boy found dead in car boot in Kalaburagi village

KALABURAGI, DHNS: A three-year old boy died of suffocation after being trapped in the boot of a car parked in front of the house in Tonasanahalli (S) village of Shahabad taluk on Wednesday.

The deceased, Basavaprabhu, was the only son of Kottureshwara Swami. The pontiff has two daughters.

The child, while playing with other children, went in the boot of the car parked in front of the house. Later, its door was locked accidently.

The family members searched for the child for a few hours. Later, they searched the car and its boot after getting suspicious and found the boy dead inside due to the suffocation.

B'luru SIR begins...

SIR, From Page 1

Some of the unmapped voters, officials said, may have been part of the electoral rolls in some other state but moved to Bengaluru post 2002.

According to the data, Bengaluru Urban district has achieved 78.93% of progress in mapping activity while Bengaluru Central stands at 67.53%, Bengaluru South is 67.93% and Bengaluru North is 69.23%. These divisions are carved out by the Election Commission and are not corporation limits.

As a part of the SIR exercise, Maheshwar Rao said booth level officers (BLOs) will undertake door-to-door visits from June 30 to July 29. The collected data will be verified before the publication of the draft electoral roll on August 5. Pending applications under Forms 6, 6A, 7 and 8 will be disposed of before the revision process begins.

He has requested political parties to appoint booth level agents (BLAs) for every polling station and assist election officials in identifying eligible voters. The final electoral roll is scheduled to be published on October 7, with October 1 fixed as the qualifying date.

3 of family killed in accident

HULIYAR (TUMAKURU DIST), DHNS: Three members of a family were killed after the car they were travelling in rammed into another car and fell into a ditch at Gollarahatti Gate near here on Thursday. Police said Gangeshwar Reddy (68), his wife Indiramma (63) and daughter Soumya (39) died on the spot.

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Date: 05.06.2026

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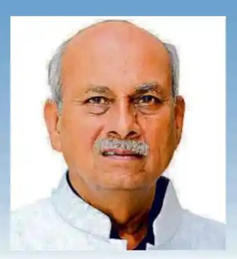
Guest of Honor
Dr Lalitbhushan S Waghmare
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Datta Meghe Institute of Higher Education and Research (DMIHER), Wardha, Maharashtra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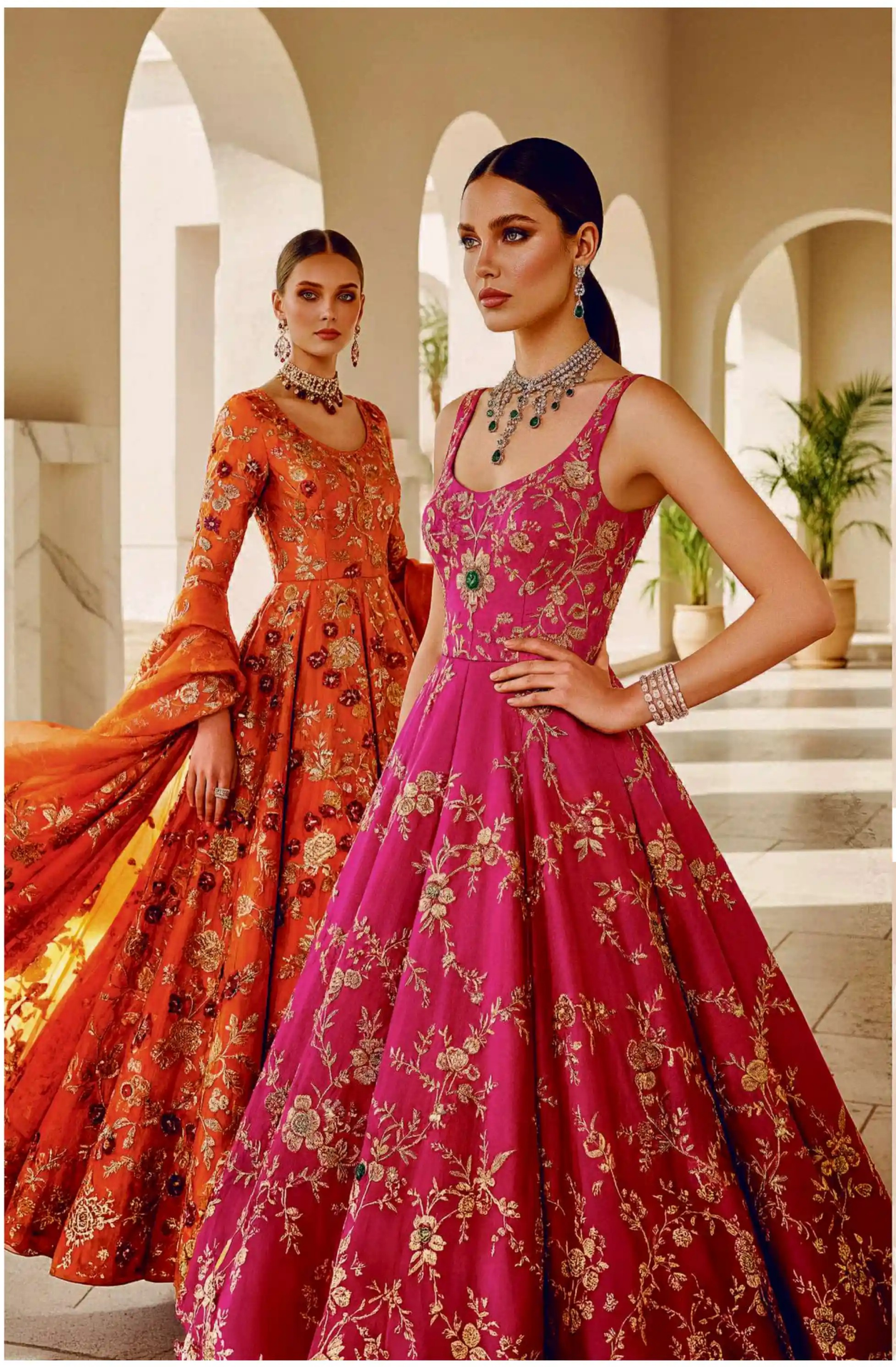

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'No loyalists in Cabinet, no freedom for CM'

BENGALURU, DHNS: Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka on Thursday said Chief Minister D K Shivakumar did not have real power in the government, saying none of his loyalists were in the first batch of ministers inducted to the Cabinet.

He told a press meet: "While taking oath, Shivakumar was holding a copy of the Constitution. Dr B R Ambedkar has given all power to the chief minister. However, the Cabinet doesn't have any MLAs from his camp. That means Siddaramaiah and high command have decided everything".

He said the Congress government would be remote-controlled by former CM Siddaramaiah and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. Praising Kerala CM V D Satheesan's decision to release a White Paper on his state's finances, the LoP sought a similar move by the DKS government.

CM announces new secretariats for people's grievances, NRIs

'Won't succumb to pressure based on caste, religion, etc'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar announced on Thursday that a new secretariat would be created to resolve people's problems.

Addressing a press conference after a high-level meeting with senior bureaucrats, including additional chief secretaries, principal secretaries, ADGPs and senior police officers, the chief minister said, "A new secretariat will be created to listen to people's grievances. A separate minister will be appointed to take the petitions, listen to the feelings and the problems of people".

Noting that there were 2-3 protests each day, the chief minister said there was a need to see what demands were legal and what were not.

The chief minister also announced that a secretariat would be set up for non-resident Indians (NRIs).

"This secretariat will be helpful for NRIs interested in investing in Karnataka. I have directed that steps should be taken for this".

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar greets participants in a meeting of top bureaucrats and police officers at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Thursday.

'Prevent disenfranchisement'

Shivakumar directed officials to ensure that no eligible voters lose their franchise during SIR.

"Including CM and DCM, all voters should fill the enumeration form, put their signature and submit the documents. They must be made aware that they will otherwise lose their voting rights. I have directed that essential preparations should be made for this".

"Lakhs of people have lost their voting rights in other states. This should not happen in Karnataka," he said and noted that help desks should be created wherever needed to assist regarding SIR.

The chief minister urged bureaucrats to be "transparent," have a "positive" approach and not yield to pressure by anyone — including MLAs, ministers and his own office.

"Our government will not succumb to any pressure based on caste, religion and so on. There should be transparent and corruption-free governance. Within 15 days, an action plan should be prepared by all departments".

Shivakumar said there was no information on how CSR funds up to Rs 8,000 crore to Rs 8,500 crore in Karnataka were being used.

"The government needs information on how these funds are being used. We have already announced that we are building one KPS school for every three gram panchayats. The government is emphasising on primary education. We will send letters seeking more support for this".

Taluk-level police teams to curb rowdyism

The chief minister announced that specific police teams would be set up at the taluk level to curb rowdyism.

"There should be specific police teams in every taluk to prevent rowdyism. These teams must ensure that miscreants do not indulge in criminal activities. I have directed them to keep an eye on old and new rowdies".

DKS flags misuse of guarantee schemes, hints at relook

State has spent over Rs 1.3 lakh cr on schemes till now

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Thursday cited instances of misuse of the guarantee schemes, like Gruha Jyothi, for commercial purposes, and hinted at a relook at flagship schemes.

However, Shivakumar clarified that this would not be a revision.

"We are not revising it. There are some discrepancies in the mobile numbers and details of the beneficiaries. In the Gruha Jyothi scheme, some persons are obtaining 200 units of free electricity under the guise of domestic use but then using it for commercial purposes. There are 1.64 crore beneficiaries and if eligible persons take the benefits, we don't have an issue. But we do need details about the beneficiaries, right?," he told a press conference.

Noting that there were instances where a single person had five meters in his name, Shivakumar said the government must know how many of them are from Karnataka and how many are not.

"Some people have obtained Gruha Lakshmi funds (Rs 2,000 per month provided to women heads of households) and there have been discrepancies to the tune of Rs 120 crore. Accurate data on this is needed, right?"

Even before becoming the chief minister, Shivakumar had flagged concerns about over Rs 100 crore being given to ineligible persons. Even earlier, in October 2024, Shivakumar had claimed that some women had volunteered to pay the bus ticket fare, and that some changes may be needed. However, after backlash, he had to later clarify that he had not referred to a revision or anything.

Since 2023, Karnataka has spent over Rs 1.3 lakh crore on the guarantee schemes. In 2026-27 alone, the government has set aside over Rs 51,000 crore for guarantees.

Bureaucrats and other experts have suggested that a relook at the guarantees, such as imposing income caps, could help to streamline the scheme and ensure that affluent and well-to-do persons do not get the benefits.

MOVIE R | E | V | I | E | W

A compelling struggle that never lands

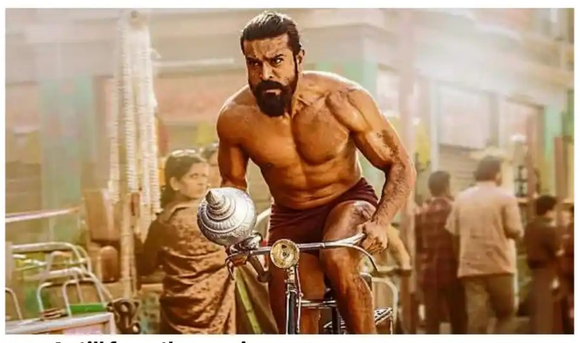
PRANATI A S

Resistance does not take a single form for the oppressed. It can emerge through protest, persistence, solidarity or even survival itself. Like many commercial film tropes, 'Peddi' too has Ram Charan's character choose violence as the immediate solution. But soon he realises it's not the only solution, and his act of defiance lies elsewhere. He picks his core strength as his tool of resistance — his athletic ability.

Set in a village in the hilly region of the Eastern Ghats, the film follows a tribal community forced to travel miles from their settlement to work. Although a train cuts through their settlement, it never stops there. Appalasuri (Jagapathi Babu) has spent three decades campaigning for a railway station to no avail. Soon, Peddi becomes the face of the movement. While the idea of Peddi's resistance is compelling, it does not fully translate on screen.

Director Buchi Babu attempts to engage with themes of resistance, police brutality and systemic oppression, but he barely scratches the surface. Even the community's struggles come across as a spectacle rather than carrying emotional weight.

'Peddi' has the blueprint of a Sukumar film, but Buchi Babu, who is Sukumar's long-time associate, fails to grasp the political undercurrents of Sukumar's films. For instance, Samantha's Rama Lakshmi ('Rangasthalam') and Rashmika's Srivalli ('Pushpa: The Rule') possess a degree of agency that allows them to shape the story around them. Here in 'Peddi', Janhvi Kapoor's Achiyamma is nothing but a mere prop. Her role rarely extends beyond displaying her body, becoming a figure of objectification to titillate the audience.



A still from the movie. PIC CREDIT: MYTHRI MOVIE MAKERS

In that sense, the film also looks at Peddi from an upper caste lens — of a tribal boy being socially uncouth, physically aggressive and lustful in his pursuit of love. And from a gender perspective, he exhibits a high degree of male superiority in protecting her "honour".

Shivarajkumar as Gournaidu, a kushti champion, is calm and composed. Peddi's bond with Naidu, along with the training sequences, taps into a familiar nostalgia reminiscent of 'The Karate Kid' and 'Dragon Ball'. Peddi's character slowly transforms from an aggressive young man who takes pride in his cricketing skills to a strong wrestler still obsessed with 'magatanam' (masculinity), and into a composed athlete winning a gold. The director, however, misses minute details that could make one root for Peddi, rendering his climax speech less impactful than it could have been. Ram Charan delivers a compelling performance; he could even win India a gold medal for dancing if one such competition existed!

The film is visually striking, with interesting frames, but the production design looks largely superficial, especially that of the tribal settlement. And this could be A R Rahman's weakest outing ever. With an excessively long runtime of 189 minutes, the second half works considerably better than the first.

Peddi

Telugu (Theatres)

Director: Buchi Babu Sana

CAST: Ram Charan, Janhvi Kapoor, Shivarajkumar, Jagapati Babu

Margaret Alva unhappy over women's absence in new Cabinet

BENGALURU, DHNS: Veteran Congress leader Margaret Alva lamented that there wasn't even a single woman in the first batch of 13 ministers who took oath with D K Shivakumar on Wednesday.

Margaret Alva

Taking to X (formerly Twitter) on Wednesday night, Alva said: "Congratulations to D K Shivakumar on being sworn in as Karnataka CM. I wish him and his team success. I would've loved to have seen at least ONE Congress woman in the new Karnataka Cabinet that was sworn in today. Deeply disappointed that there isn't."

Slamming the Congress, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka said on Thursday that the Congress had "betrayed" women.

Responding to the criticism, Shivakumar said: "Let us see. There are a lot of vacancies. Last time as well, it was not about any one individual. We were all there together. Look at the number of schemes we have introduced for women. We have set a model for the entire country on how to empower and support women."

With the Cabinet having a maximum capacity of 34 members, the government can still fill another 20 berths in the next round of expansion.

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General

DIRECT RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the following positions in Dakshina Kannada Growers Organic Collective Farmer Producer Company Limited, a company registered under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The company is expanding its operations and opening new branches at Bangalore, Hassan, Mysore, Shivamogga, Mangalore, Moodbidri, Kundapura, Surathkal, Karkala, Udupi.Available Positions* Manager* Assistant Manager* Cash Officer* Loan Officer* Customer Service Officer* Field Collection Officer Total Vacancies : 65 Positions Salary 18,500 to 45,000 per month (based on qualification and experience) Employee Benefits* ESI* PF Eligibility Candidates from all districts of Karnataka are eligible to apply. Last Date for Application 20-06-2026 Contact*S. Satish Nayak* +91 99804 96533 +91 94486 27226. Interested candidates are requested to apply on or before the last date.

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PVPWT/24/2026-27 Date: 05.06.2026

PVP Welfare Trust invites eligible candidates for a walk-in interview for the following posts at various Schools/Colleges of the trust. The candidates may attend the walk-in-interview on **13.06.2026 at 10.00 AM** in the Board Room, PVPWT, Dr. AIT Campus, Outer Ring Road, Mallathahalli, Bengaluru-560056 Please submit the written application on white paper along with xerox copies of certificates and the original documents for verification.

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PERSONAL

Change of Name

ANNOUNCEMENT
I, **ROOPASHREE** and **ROOPA B.N** residing at # No. 519, 4th Main Road Attur Layout, Yelahanka Bangalore-560064, declare that the above names pertain to me only. In school record, 10th marks card it is mention as **ROOPA B.N.** after marriage official documents including Aadhar, PAN, Bank A/c and Voter ID it is mentioned as **ROOPA SHREE** I declare that vide affidavit dated 02-06-2026 before notary Aravind Patil G.G, Bangalore.Henceforth I shall be known as **ROOPA B.N**

I, AMANPREET residing at B-2209 Serene Brigade Cornerstone Utopia, Varthur, Gunjur Main Road, Near Varthur Police Station, Varthur, Varthur_Post, Bengaluru- 560087 have changed my name to AMANPREET KAUR vide Affidavit dated 01.06.2026 sworn before Notary Yankoba, Bengaluru. Henceforth, I shall be known and identified as AMANPREET KAUR for all purposes including Passport records.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **S Kabilan,** R/at Flat No.001, Jayalakshmi Residency, 1A Cross, 1st Main,T Krishna Reddy Layout, Banaswadi, Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru - 560043, have changed my minor son's name from **K SAI NATHIN** to **SAI NATHIN K** vide affidavit dt: 29.05.2026 before notary Y.R. Chandrasekar, Bengaluru. Henceforth, he shall be called as **SAI NATHIN K** only.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GIRIJA K.R,** residing at No 272-4/1, Giriyamma Kempaiah Nilaya, 1st Cross, Muneshwara Temple Black, Palace Guttahalli, Bangalore-560003, have changed my name to **GIRIJA KEMPAIHA RANGASWAMY** vide affidavit dated 04-06-2026 before notary A Idinabba, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHASHIKALA J,** residing at No.72, Samruddhi Vijaya, 2nd Cross, MEI Layout, Bengaluru- 560073 have changed my name to **S J SHASHIKALA** vide affidavit dated 03-06-2026 sworn before notary N. Mahesha, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called as **S J SHASHIKALA** only.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MAMATHA L** and **MAMATHA KRISHNA,** W/o Krishna G, residing at # 52/2, NGEF Layout Main Road, 2nd Floor, Flat No. 214, Ds-MAX Sheltons, Mallathahalli, Ullalu, Bengaluru-560056, declare that the above names pertain to me only. Henceforth I shall be known as **MAMATHA KRISHNA** vide affidavit dated 04-06-2026 before notary H R Karunakara, Bengaluru.

I, JAIRAJ Ramaiah, father and natural guardian of minor Master Bhuvaneswar, residing at 70/1, 1st Cross, 3rd Main, Ranganathpur, Kamakshipalya, Bengaluru-560079, hereby declare that the name of my son has been changed from 'Bhuvaneswar' to 'Bhuvaneswar J'. Henceforth, he shall be known as 'Bhuvaneswar J' for all purposes.

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Tourism dept: CAG unearths Rs 200-cr irregularities

'Mosque prayer hall built instead of Yatri Nivas'

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) has flagged irregularities worth at least Rs 200 crore in the tourism department between 2020 and 2024, including diversion of funds and construction of a mosque prayer hall in place of a sanctioned Yatri Nivas.

The audit, whose findings *DH* has accessed, criticised the department for "significant and systemic deficiencies," "irregular fund management" and "misutilisation of public funds". The audit period covers BJP and Congress governments.

A draft of the audit report has been shared with the department, seeking the government's views on the findings.

An amount of Rs 88.2 crore meant for "aiding" tourism activities was "diverted for works undertaken by public works department (PWD)".

This pertains to 19 road construction and improvement projects executed in Vijayanagar, Chikkamagaluru, Mandya, Belagavi, Mysuru and Udupi districts, which were sanctioned between 2015 and 2021. Of them, 15 works were "not aligned" with tourism infrastructure guidelines.

"The project proposals did not establish tourism relevance and the executed structures were standard road works falling within routine mandate of PWD," the audit found.

In the case of 3-star hotel projects at Badami, Belur, Vijayapura and Hampi, the audit found "improper planning, irregular execution and unauthorised change of scope," involving Rs 83.97 crore of taxpayers' money.

"The projects were inflicted with serious systemic failures in planning, approval, execution and regulatory oversight," the audit said.

"Repeated changes in executing agencies, unauthorised revisions in scope and cost, infructuous expenditure on detailed project reports (DPRs) and prolonged delays resulted in inefficient use of public funds and non-achievement of intended tourism outcomes even after over six years," the audit said.

Prayer hall

The audit found violations in the construction of Yatri Nivas or dormitories for tourists.

In one glaring case, the government sanctioned Rs 25 lakh to build a Yatri Nivas near Maulali mosque at Basavanadurga in Hosapete taluk of Vijayanagar district.

The work was awarded in February 2023 with a 11-month deadline. While departmental records showed the work was completed, no project completion report was available.

A physical verification revealed that even after a 22-month delay, the structure was incomplete.

"Further, instead of a Yatri Nivas, the building constructed was an open prayer space," the audit said.

Hoardings

Intriguingly, the audit found that a contractor was paid Rs 8.37 crore to erect 164 informative hoardings across important tourist destinations. However, no records were found to confirm installation of 134 hoardings.

"Third-party inspection reports and consolidated physical progress reports were not produced," the audit said, adding that the department had not framed any policy, content framework or location-specific guidelines on information to be displayed.

Other findings

The report said Rs 6.81 crore was spent on a "sub-standard" DPR on the Jog Falls tourism project. Discrepancies were found in development works at Chunchanakatte waterfall in Mysuru, worth Rs 8.25 crore.

Frontline forest staff to be feted

BENGALURU, DHNS: A forest watcher and three beat foresters will be felicitated by a city-based NGO for their exemplary work on the field.

In a release, Joseph Hoover of Cricketers for Wildlife Conservation said KSCA president B K Venkatesh Prasad will present the awards to Vinay Kumar, a forest watcher, and beat foresters Venkatesha, Sharanappa and Sunil Basappa Belavi on Saturday.

"The unsung heroes who risk their lives to protect our precious forests and wildlife will be given a cash award and a citation," he added.

Chadchan case: Vijayapura police arrest six more

VIJAYAPURA, DHNS: The Vijayapura police have arrested six more, including a key accused, in connection with the murder of six people over land dispute at Chadchan's Govindapur village. The number of people arrested has gone up to 18.

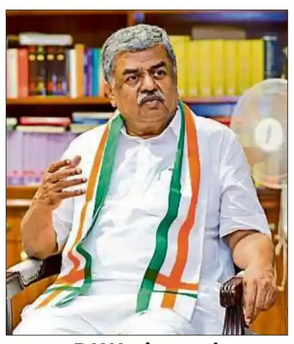
The arrested are Appugouda Patil, Shankrappa Arakeri, Appasaheb alias Kishan Bhovi, Satyappa Biradar, Sultan Biradar and Mahesh Biradar, SP Laxman Nimbargi said.

Five members of a family and another man were hacked to death by a group of 15 to 20 members when the victims were preparing the disputed land for cultivation at Govindapur.

Power-seekers can go with CM; party builders join me, says KPCC president

Shivakumar vows to stay rooted in party

PRATHIMA NANDAKUMAR
BENGALURU, DHNS



B K Hariprasad.

Drawing a clear distinction between the government and the organisation, newly appointed Karnataka Congress president B K Hariprasad on Thursday said those seeking power and positions should approach Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, while those committed to strengthening the party should join him.

A day after taking charge, the 72-year-old OBC leader, regarded as a political successor to Ahinda leader Siddaramaiah, appealed to senior leaders who missed out on Cabinet berths to work for the organisation.

Rejecting talk of factionalism, he described the arrangement as a "division of responsibilities" between the government and the party. "I consider it my good fortune to lead a sacred party like Congress," he asserted.

Hariprasad downplayed the significance of the Vokkaliga CM-OBC KPCC chief combination, saying ideology mattered more than caste identities. Calling himself a "soldier of the Congress party," he said the Congress was like a banyan tree under whose shade everyone could gather.

Referring to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), he alleged constitutional institutions were being misused to disenfranchise genuine voters. "I have a huge responsibility. The nation is at a crossroads and we must fight against this," he said.

Meanwhile, Shivakumar signalled that becoming Chief Minister would not diminish his involvement with the organisation.

"Just because I became the Chief Minister, I will not abandon this office. You party workers are the breath. If you are strong, we become strong," he told workers at the KPCC office.

The Chief Minister announced plans to create 600 additional positions in committees similar to guarantee committees, with three posts for every Assembly constituency. The appointments, he said, would be announced within 10 days.

Shivakumar also reiterated his commitment to strengthening the party infrastructure, saying 100 offices sanctioned under the Gandhi Bharata programme would be built.

Referring to the proposed Congress Bhavan, he recalled Rahul Gandhi asking him to postpone the 'bhoomi puja' and assuring him that the foundation stone would carry his name.

"I came here today because, if you forget your root, you will not get the fruit. This party office is our temple," he said.

With GBA, local body elections approaching, Shivakumar instructed ministers, booth-level agents and party workers to intensify work on electoral roll revision and voter enrolment.

He stressed that party tickets would be given only to grassroots workers who actively engage with voters.

"Our goal is to complete all upcoming elections within the next four to five months," he said.

Ramaiah Group and University at Albany launch RISM, a greenfield deemed-to-be university

(Left to right) Dr MR Jayaram, Chancellor, RISM, and Havidán Rodríguez, President, University at Albany, exchange greetings during the launch of the Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management (RISM) in Bengaluru, alongside senior leaders from both institutions.

The Ramaiah Group's Gokula Education Foundation (Medical) in Collaboration with University at Albany, State University of New York aim to redefine higher education through RISM.

Conceived as a next-generation STEM and management university, Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management (RISM), India's first dinstinct greenfield deemed-to-be university in Bengaluru, aims to deliver globally benchmarked, industry-embedded education that prioritises resilience, translational research and measurable societal impact.

With the philosophy of "Build. The Future." embedded across its curriculum and culture, RISM seeks to create an educational ecosystem where academic rigour, industry engagement and research converge to prepare students for the challenges of a rapidly evolving world.

The university's main residential campus is being developed in Bengaluru's Information Technology Investment Region near Devanahalli, located close to major innovation hubs and industry anchors. Academic operations will commence from a transit campus in Yelahanka in August 2026, while the main campus is scheduled to become fully operational by September 2028.

All programmes will follow a fully residential model designed to foster holistic development through sports, culture, wellness, leadership and entrepreneurship initiatives.

From teaching institutions to learning institutions

Speaking at the launch, Dr MR Jayaram, Chairman and Trustee of Gokula Education Foundation (Medical) and Chancellor of RISM, described the occasion as the culmination of a long-held vision. "This is a great day for us. It has taken me almost 25 years of dreaming for what has come true today," he said.

Reflecting on his journey in higher education, Dr Jayaram spoke about the need to move beyond traditional teaching models and create institutions that actively contribute to industrial and economic growth. "We have had excellent teaching institutions, but did they truly contribute to India's industrial and economic growth? That was the biggest question I faced. RISM is designed to transform institutions from teaching to learning, to translate learning into systems, products and practices, and to serve the largest sections of society in this country," he said.

Bridging the industry-academia gap

Dr Jayaram noted that while India's economy and industry have undergone significant transformation since liberalisation, higher education has struggled to keep pace, creating a widening gap between industry requirements and educational outcomes.

RISM, he said, has been conceived to bridge this gap through experiential, outcome-based learning embedded with industry from the outset. A defining aspect of the institution is its collaboration with the University at Albany, which emerged after an 18-month search for a meaningful global academic partner.

"We wanted a knowledge partnership, not a partnership where university knowledge is offered as a service for a fee," Dr Jayaram said. He emphasised that the partnership extends beyond branding and encompasses co-developed curricula, faculty engagement, shared academic standards, international pathways and collaborative research initiatives.

A global knowledge partnership

Dr Havidán Rodríguez, President of the University at Albany, State University of New York, described the collaboration as an opportunity to create a new model for higher education. "Higher education systems built decades or centuries ago served an economy that no longer exists. RISM is being built from the ground up to thrive in today's rapidly changing economy," he said.

Rodríguez highlighted that RISM's DNA is rooted in industry engagement and global collaboration, enabling students to tackle real-world challenges in areas such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, semiconductors, health equity and climate change.

He concluded by emphasising the transformational nature of the partnership. "Today is a true manifestation of what a transformational partnership can do for our countries," he said. The two institutions jointly pledged: "Together we are going to build the future — starting today."

Building future-ready graduates

Presenting the strategic vision for the university, Sri Gurucharan Gollerkeri, Executive Director and Chief Strategy Officer, said RISM will focus exclusively on STEM and management disciplines while building strong foundational capabilities and transferable technology skills. "RISM will be uniquely focused on STEM and management disciplines, offering rigorous foundational science programmes designed to develop transferable technology skills," he said.

He explained that the university will place a strong emphasis on industry-embedded capstone projects, experiential learning and translational research. "We must move from being mere teaching institutions to becoming learning institutions—combining knowledge with practice, embedding industry partners, and benchmarking ourselves against global standards, so that ideas move from lab to prototype, prototype to validation, validation to market, and market to societal impact," he said.

Highlighting the implications of AI for higher education, he added that universities must strengthen the qualities that make humans uniquely valuable. "In the age of AI, we reinforce what makes us human: curiosity, creativity, judgment, ethics, empathy and the ability to work across disciplines."

Vision for a new higher-education ecosystem

Prof BN Raghunandan, Chairman of the RISM Task Force, outlined how the institution aims to distinguish itself within India's higher-education landscape. "RISM will redefine India's higher education echelons by shifting from credentialing to capability-building," he said.

According to Prof Raghunandan, the institution's academic model will combine strong disciplinary foundations with continuous industry engagement through internships, live projects, industry-sponsored Centres of Excellence and an extended capstone programme beginning in the second year.

He also highlighted the Mentor Professor model, which will bring experienced industry leaders into the academic ecosystem to ensure curriculum relevance and improve graduate readiness. The fully- residential university will house interdisciplinary schools spanning AI, aerospace, electrical sciences and technology management, encouraging cross-domain collaboration and entrepreneurship.

RISM aims to produce graduates capable of translating research into scalable solutions, innovative products and new enterprises. In doing so, he said, the institution seeks to create a replicable model for higher education that strengthens academic excellence, industry trust and societal impact while contributing to India's leadership in technology, innovation and inclusive national development.

A new chapter in Indian higher education

Guided by the Ramaiah philosophy of "Gnyanam, Vignyanam cha Bhakti Saritam" — Knowledge, Science and Devotion as a River — RISM forms part of a broader ecosystem that includes the Ramaiah Academy Foundation for skill development and Vyuha Deep Science, a translational research centre focused on commercialisation and societal applications.

As Dr Jayaram concluded, "I want to learn for my country, and give a learning institution for India's next generation." With its emphasis on global partnerships, industry integration, translational research and future-ready education, RISM's launch signals a new possibility for Indian higher education—one that seeks to develop graduates who are adaptable, ethically grounded and capable of transforming ideas into societal impact in the age of AI.

Curated by DH Brandspot

Free bus pass scheme to benefit 10 lakh male students, cost Rs 1,700 cr a year

Cost includes existing subsidies; extra expenditure pegged at Rs 70 cr

MUTHI-UR-RAHMAN SIDDIQUI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Students often complain about poor bus services and low frequency. DH FILE PHOTO

The free bus pass scheme for all male students announced by Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Wednesday is expected to cost about Rs 1,700 crore annually and benefit over 10 lakh students.

Over three lakh students will benefit under the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC), and over 2 lakh each from the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), the North Western Karnataka Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) and the Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC), according to data reviewed by *DH*.

Girl students already travel free under the Shakti scheme.

Officials said certain issues need to be addressed and modalities worked out before the scheme is rolled out. The government is expected to issue a formal order and detailed guidelines on Friday.

Under the existing arrangement, student bus passes are already subsidised.

The government contributes 50% of the cost, the RTCs 25%, and students the remaining 25%. However, bus pass rates have not been revised since 2012-13, while bus fares have increased multiple times — by 30-40% — during the same period. As a result, students effectively pay only 7% of the actual cost.

Despite repeated requests from RTCs, the government has not revised bus pass rates.

KSRTC Managing Director Akram Pasha said the scheme would benefit more than 10 lakh male students.

"Because of the heavy subsidy and a freeze on pass rates, students pay only 7%. We've been requesting the government to increase bus pass rates by 50%," he told *DH*.

Based on the current 7% contribution, male students collectively pay about Rs 70 crore annually. "The government will have to pay this. We're also seeking a 25% hike in line with the fare hike," he added.

Officials said the annual cost could reach Rs 1,700 crore once the full subsidy burden borne by the government and RTCs is taken into account. The government releases the subsidy every quarter.

Asked whether the new scheme would strain bus services in rural areas as ridership increases, the official replied in the negative.

"We've increased our services after the Shakti scheme. Forty per cent of our services cater to rural areas and students. We cover 92% of villages. We are unable to operate services only in villages that do not have proper roads," Pasha said.

Priyanga M, Managing Director of NWKRTC, said the corporation had issued 1.8 lakh bus passes to male students last year, but the number could increase with the launch of the scheme.

"With the new scheme, we will request the government to bear our share of the subsidy to reduce our financial burden," she said.

She said any decision on increasing services would depend on demand.

Student bus pass rates currently range from Rs 300 to Rs 1,200.

Applications are processed by the Directorate of Electronic Delivery of Citizen Services (EDCS) through the Seva Sindhu online portal. Students can also apply at BangaloreOne, KarnatakaOne and Grama-One centres by paying a service charge of Rs 30. The passes are issued by the respective RTC at bus stations.

Students who already applied and made the payment since the process began on June 1 may not receive refunds.

Supreme Court upholds additional 5% royalty on iron ore

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that mining companies must pay royalty on minerals at the rate specified in the Second Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as applicable on the date of their removal or dispatch.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Karol and N Kotiswar Singh held that any contractual terms or prior agreements between parties cannot override or freeze a subsequent statutory increase in royalty rates.

The court upheld the Karnataka government's action of deducting an additional 5% royalty from the security deposit of BMM Ispat Ltd and set aside the contrary judgment of the Karnataka High Court.

The dispute centred on whether the enhanced royalty rate, introduced through a statutory amendment under Section 9 of the Act, could be applied to iron ore that was sold through e-auction, but lifted after the date of enhancement.

The court made it clear that state governments are entitled to collect higher royalty following a change in law, even if the rates were lower at the time of the tender or agreement.

Royalty becomes payable on the date of movement of minerals, the bench said.

"If date of movement is after enhancement in royalty on account of change in law, a contract entered into prior to statutory change cannot limit its impact," it observed.

The case pertained to iron ore stock auctioned by a Supreme Court-appointed committee. BMM Ispat Ltd had participated in e-auction when royalty rate was 10%. In 2015, the Centre revised the rate for iron ore to 15%.

When the company sought the return of its security deposit after completing the lifting of the material, authorities deducted the differential 5% royalty and refunded balance.

The court said the company had the option to lift the entire quantity before the amendment came into force, but chose not to do so.

"It is BMM Ispat who either adopted piecemeal approach in moving the mineral or moved the entire quantity after the date of the amendment. As such, the company cannot escape payment of enhanced royalty," the bench said.

It rejected the company's contention that its liability was frozen at the rate prevalent on date of tender. It said a contractual provision must yield to a subsequent statutory amendment.

A file photo of fine collection booth set up in Mysuru for collecting discounted fines.

50% discount on pending traffic fines till July 10

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Karnataka government has once again announced a 50% concession on pending traffic violation fines, providing vehicle owners an opportunity to clear their dues.

The concession will be available from June 21 to July 10 on pending fines totalling Rs 2,827 crore.

A 50% discount will be applicable on fines related to traffic e-challans registered by the police before May 2026 and still pending for payment.

The concession will also apply to pending cases registered with the Transport Department between 1991 and 2022.

Vehicle owners can pay the discounted fines through the KSPS app, KarnatakaOne centres, and other designated platforms.

The decision was taken after the state government accepted a proposal submitted by the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority to facilitate the disposal of pending cases.

A similar concession scheme was offered in November last year to encourage vehicle owners to settle outstanding traffic fines.

Back then, 77,41,050 cases were disposed of, resulting in the collection of about Rs 201 crore in fines.

Similarly, 902 cases of the Transport Department were disposed of, yielding about Rs 29.66 lakh in fines.

Rajesh Exports funds were routed via personal accounts, says Sebi

Sebi, From Page 1

Sebi found a stark mismatch between these audited figures and the revenues reported by Rajesh Exports and its intermediary holding company, Global Gold Refineries (GGR).

For instance, in calendar year 2023, Valcambi SA reported a standalone revenue of around Rs 543 crore, while GGR and REL reported consolidated revenues of approximately Rs 2.93 lakh crore and Rs 2.81 lakh crore, respectively. As a result, Valcambi's standalone revenues accounted for less than 0.5% of the revenues reported at the consolidated level.

The regulator questioned how a holding company with no independent operating activities could recognise gross transaction values running into several lakh crore rupees when the operating subsidiary itself recognised only processing fees as revenue.

The regulator said the company was issued multiple summons and given opportunities to furnish true and fair financial statements, complete records explaining the end-use, business rationale, but there was no satisfactory and complete response from the company. REL and its promoter Rajesh Mehta have demonstrated a consistent and deliberate pattern of non-cooperation with the forensic auditor as well as investigation over an extended period, Sebi stated.

REL's statutory auditors, despite undertaking to furnish audit working papers during their depositions, have also not complied. This sustained non-cooperation is itself indicative of an intent to suppress material information and obstruct regulatory inquiry, Sebi said.

New forensic auditor

Sebi has also ordered the appointment of a new forensic auditor to complete the audit of the company's books.

Sebi conducted an investigation for the period between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2024. The investigation follows a complaint filed in 2024 by a shareholder of Rajesh Exports Ltd.

The shareholder alleged potential financial misrepresentation in the books of REL with respect to large sum of trade receivables outstanding for more than two years.

Responding to the allegations, Mehta said Sebi's order was only an interim order and not a final determination. According to him, the regulator had misunderstood the accounting treatment of revenues generated by the Valcambi SA.

The company said its reported revenues were accurate and that the regulator's observations stemmed from a "communication gap".

"There is absolutely nothing wrong with the revenue declared by the company," Mehta told *DH*.

"The company has been presenting its audited financials regularly."

"Most of the revenues are from Valcambi, which Sebi has not considered correctly. Sebi has considered only the gross profit of Valcambi as revenue. We have submitted more than 350-400 GB of data. We are confident that once everything is clarified, things will come back to normalcy," he said, adding that the company would decide on any legal challenge to the order only after responding to Sebi.

Rajesh Exports shares fell 5% and hit the lower circuit on Thursday. (With PTI inputs).

Mamata must remain supreme leader, say some rebel leaders

Mamata, From Page 1

Mamata also received calls from several other dissident legislators, who reaffirmed allegiance to her and pledged support to her in her bid to rebuild the TMC, Mosharraf Hossain, who did not join the rebels, said.

Meanwhile, Sukhendu Sekhar Ray, a TMC member in the Rajya Sabha, told a TV channel on Thursday that several parliamentarians might revolt against the party.

After more than two-thirds of the TMC legislators, led by Ritabrata Bandopadhyay, staged a coup, the party is anticipating a similar rebellion in its parliamentary party, particularly with the BJP-led Central government keen to ensure additional support in the Lok Sabha before making a renewed move to enhance the size of Lok Sabha by redrawing boundaries based on the 2011 Census, and enable reservation for women based on delimitation.

Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, who was elected to the Lok Sabha from Barasat in the North 24 Parganas district four times, already waged a revolt by relinquishing all organisational posts in the party on May 27.

Several other TMC members in both houses of the Parliament were also contemplating jumping on the rebel bandwagon, according to party insiders, who pointed out that such a move would add to the numerical edge of the BJP against the opposition parties.

Inter-corporation transfers at RTCs

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) on Thursday published the transfer orders for Grade 3 non-supervisory and Grade 4 employees under the mutual and general transfer categories on its website ksrtc.karnataka.gov.in.

Employees transferred under the mutual transfer category have been relieved and posted to their transferred divisions with effect from June 8. For employees transferred under the general transfer category, office/unit allocation will be made through counselling to be conducted through www.ksrtc.org/transfer from June 11 to 17.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Dry weather prevailed over Coastal Karnataka, South Interior Karnataka and North Interior Karnataka

Forecast June 05: Rainfall to occur at few places over the state.

INTERIOR NORTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	31.2	21	55.9
Bidar	37.8	24.8	0.4
Vijayapura	31	22	19.6
Dharwad	30.2	21.6	17
Haveri	32.2	22.2	00
Kalaburagi	37.2	25	00
Raichur	37	25	00
COASTAL			
Honnavar	31.1	24.4	4.7
Karwar	31.4	24.2	37.6
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	28.1	27	3.8

INTERIOR SOUTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	NA	NA	NA
Bengaluru	29.4	20.1	00
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	NA	NA	NA
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	30.6	21.4	00
Davangere	31	20.8	00
Hassan	NA	NA	NA
Mysuru	30	20.6	03
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	31.2	22	00

OTHER STATIONS

New Delhi	39.1	29.7	00
Kolkata	37.8	28.6	09
Mumbai	34.9	28	00
Chennai	40.3	30.4	00
Pune	37	23.7	00
Hyderabad	38.4	27.2	0.6
Th'puram	31.9	24.5	04

Jumbo found dead

SUNTIKOPPA (KODAGU DISTRICT) DHNS: A wild elephant was found dead at a plantation in Thondoor village near 7th Hosakote Gram Panchayat limits on Thursday.

The male elephant, around 25-years-old, in search of food had entered the plantation. Preliminary observations suggested that it got trapped in slush and may have died of suffocation.

RANI CHANNAMMA UNIVERSITY

Vidya Sangama, P.B.National Highway-04, Belagavi-591156

(NAAC Accredited with B+ Grade - 2021)

Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan

Phone No.: 0831-2565242 **Office of the Registrar** E-mail: registrar@rcub.ac.in

Ref: RCUB/ R.O/ /2026-27/1211 Date: 04.06.2026

-: Tender Notification (Through KPPP Portal):-

Rani Channamma University, Belagavi invites following e-tenders for the procurement of equipment from eligible bidders under standard tender document

SN	Tender Name	EMD
1	Video Spectral Comparator, under PM-USHA MERU Scheme. RCUB/2026-27/IND0034.	Rs.1,60,000/-
2	Quantum Efficiency Measurement System (IQE) under PM-USHA MERU Scheme (RCUB/2026-27/IND0032.)	Rs.1,40,000/-
3	Nitrogen Gas Generator and Spin Coater with Oil Free Pump under PM-USHA MERU Scheme (RCUB/2026-27/IND0033.)	Rs. 20,000/-
4	Solar Simulator Under KSTePS VGST K-FIST (RCUB/2026-27/IND0031)	Rs. 18,000/-

Bidders are required to submit their tenders on or before **18.06.2026, 5.00 PM,** through KPPP Portal (**https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**) For further details like any date extension, Addendum will be updated in said portal and the University website **www.rcub.ac.in** or contact the **Estate Office, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi**

Sd/-
Registrar
Rani Channamma University, Belagavi

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Department of Health & Family Welfare

Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society

Arogya Soudha, 4th Floor, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengaluru-560023.

Tel: 080-29557021, email: pdksaps@gmail.com

No.KSAPS/AD(F)/SA/10/2021-22 **Dated: 04/06/2026**

Expression of Interest

Expression of interest (Call-2) called for audit of KSAPS accounts for the period 2025-26. For more details visit KSAPS website: **https://ksaps.karnataka.gov.in.** Last date for submission of EOI in sealed cover to this office on or before: **20/06/2026 upto 5.30 pm**.

Sd/- Project Director
Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/990/NR/2026-27

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರ

ಅಧಿಕೃತವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾದುದು

ಸಂಪುಟ ೧೬೧ Volume 161 | ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಬುಧವಾರ, ೦೩, ಜೂನ್, ೨೦೨೬ (ಜ್ಯೇಷ್ಠ, ೧೩, ಶಕವರ್ಷ, ೧೯೪೮) Bengaluru, Wednesday, 03,June 2026 (Jyaistha, 13, Shakavarsha 1948) | ಸಂಚಿಕೆ ೧೦೫ Issue 105

ಭಾಗ ೩

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆಯಾ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಗಳು

ನಮೂನೆ–V

ಗೃಹ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಕಾವೇರಿ ಭವನ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

[ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ನಿಯಮ–5, 20(1) (ಬಿ)]

ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್‌ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ–2013 ಕಲಂ–11(1) ರ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಗೃಮಂ/ಭೂಸ್ವಾವಿ/ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ/ಹಾಗಲಮನೆ/2025–26/261973 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02/04/2026

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಅಂದರೆ ವಸತಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಾಗಿ ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಭದ್ರಾವತಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಕಸಬಾ–II ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಹಾಗಲಮನೆ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಅನುಸೂಚಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಣಿಸಿರುವ ಜಮೀನುಗಳ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನತೆಯ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆಯಿರುತ್ತದೆಯೆಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಭಾವಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ **ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್‌ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ–2013** (2013 ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 30) ಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.07.2019 ರಿಂದ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿರುವ **ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು ಪುನರ್‌ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ (ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ) ಕಾಯ್ದೆ–2019** (2019 ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 16) ರ ಕಲಂ–10(ಎ) ರಡಿ ಮೂಲ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ–II & III ರಲ್ಲಿನ ಉಪಬಂಧಗಳನ್ನು ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದರಿಂದ ವಿನಾಯಿತಿ ನೀಡಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:– ಕಂಇ 01 ಎಕ್ಯೂಎಸ್ 2026 ದಿ:–21–02–2026 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24–02–2026 ರಂದು ಪ್ರಕಟವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ **ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್‌ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ–2013** (2013 ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 30)ರ ಕಲಂ 12 ರಮೇರೆಗೆ ಪ್ರದತ್ತವಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಚಲಾಯಿಸುವಂತೆ ಗೃಹ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಈ ಜಮೀನುಗಳ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಕೆಲಸ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ನೇಮಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಾಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವವರಿಗಾಗಲೀ ಯಾರೂ ಅಡ್ಡಿ ಮಾಡಕೂಡದೆಂದು ಎಚ್ಚರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. **ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್‌ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣದ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ–2013** (2013ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮದ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 30) ರ ಕಲಂ–11(1) ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಈ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಗೊಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಿರುವ ಭೂಮಿಯನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಂದದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ವಿಕ್ರಯಿಸುವ ,ಭೋಗ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅಡವಿಡುವ, ಅನುಭವಿಸುವ ,ಬದಲಾಯಿಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ನೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳದಂತೆ ನಿರ್ಭಂದಿಸಿದೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕ್ರಮ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಂಡಲ್ಲಿ ಅದನ್ನು ಏತೀರ್ಪು ರಚಿಸುವಾಗ ಗಣನೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳದೇ ಅಂತಿಮವಾಗಿ ಸದರಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯನ್ವಯ ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದೆಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ,ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು ಪುನರ್‌ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ–2013 (2013 ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 30) ರ ಕಲಂ 15(1)ರ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪವಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಗೊಂಡ 60 ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ತದನಂತರ ಸ್ವೀಕೃತವಾಗುವ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಯಾವುದೇ ಮುನ್ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡದೇ ವಿಲೇಯಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಕಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸದರಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ಜಮೀನಿನ ಒಂದು ನಕ್ಷೆಯನ್ನು ವಿಶೇಷ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಾಧಿಕಾರಿ–1, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪರೀಶೀಲನೆಗಾಗಿ ಇಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಅನುಸೂಚಿ

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ : ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು: ಭದ್ರಾವತಿ ಹೋಬಳಿ: ಕಸಬಾ–II ಗ್ರಾಮ : ಹಾಗಲಮನೆ

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಪಹಣಿಯಂತೆ ಖಾತೆದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು		ಸರ್ವೆ / ಖಾತಾ ನಂಬರ್	ಸರ್ವೆ/ಖಾತಾ ನಂಬರಿನಲ್ಲಿನ ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ (ಪಹಣಿ/ಉತ್ತಾರ ಅನ್ವಯ)		ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೊಳಪಡುವ ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ		ತರಹೆ	ಚಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ / ಸರಹದ್ದು				ಷರಾ
	ಭೂಮಾಲೀಕರ / ಹಿಡುವಳಿದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು	ಅನುಭವದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು		ಕೃಷಿ / ಕೃಷಿಯೇತರ ಜಮೀನು (ಎ–ಗುಂ)	ಖರಾಬು (ಎ–ಗುಂ)	ಕೃಷಿ / ಕೃಷಿಯೇತರ ಜಮೀನು (ಎ–ಗುಂ)	ಖರಾಬು (ಎ–ಗುಂ)		ಪೂರ್ವ	ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ	ಉತ್ತರ	ದಕ್ಷಿಣ	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	ಎ. ಆರ್. ಕಲ್ಪನಾ ಅಶೋಕ್ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ// ಬಿ. ಕೆ. ಅಶೋಕ್	ಎ. ಆರ್. ಕಲ್ಪನಾ ಅಶೋಕ್ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ// ಬಿ. ಕೆ. ಅಶೋಕ್	40	6–11	0–12	6–11	0–12	ತರಿ	ಸ ನಂ. 57/2, 57/3	ಸ ನಂ. 43/2, 42, 41	ಸ ನಂ. 52, 57/2	ಸ ನಂ. 36, 39	
2.	ಎ. ಆರ್. ಕಲ್ಪನಾ ಅಶೋಕ್ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ// ಬಿ. ಕೆ. ಅಶೋಕ್	ಎ. ಆರ್. ಕಲ್ಪನಾ ಅಶೋಕ್ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ// ಬಿ. ಕೆ. ಅಶೋಕ್	41	10–21	0–00	10–21	0–00	ಖುಷ್ಕಿ	ಸ ನಂ. 40	ಸ ನಂ. 36	ಸ ನಂ. 36, 43/1 42	ಸ ನಂ. 36	
3.	ಎ. ಆರ್. ಕಲ್ಪನಾ ಅಶೋಕ್ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ// ಬಿ. ಕೆ. ಅಶೋಕ್	ಎ. ಆರ್. ಕಲ್ಪನಾ ಅಶೋಕ್ ಕೋಂ ಲೇ// ಬಿ. ಕೆ. ಅಶೋಕ್	42	5–00	0–07	5–00	0–07	ತರಿ	ಸ ನಂ. 40	ಸ ನಂ. 41	ಸ ನಂ. 43/1, 43/2	ಸ ನಂ. 41	
ಒಟ್ಟು						21–32	0–19						

(ವಿ.ಸೂ: ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣಾ ಅರ್ಜಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂಚೆ ವಿಳಾಸ ಮತ್ತು ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ನಂಬರನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪದೇ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು)

ಘೋಷ್ವಾರೆ

ತರಹೆ	ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ (ಎ–ಗು)		ಖರಾಬು (ಎ–ಗು)		ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ (ಎ–ಗು)	
ಹಾಗಲಮನೆ	21	32	0	19	22	11

ಸಹಿ/– ಗೃಹ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

DIPR/CP/RO981/AAPL/2026-27

DKS picks KBG to handle B'luru, Priyank gets Home

Cabinet, From Page 1

K H Muniyappa, M B Patil, Satish Jarkiholi and Dr Sharan Prakash Patil have retained their earlier portfolios of food & civil supplies, industries, public works and medical education, respectively.

Speaking earlier in the day amid reports of discontent, Shivakumar had dismissed speculation of a rift.

"I am not aware of anybody being unhappy and no one has met me regarding the portfolios," he said.

Revenue portfolio

Gowda, it is said, wanted to retain his earlier revenue portfolio to see through various reforms he put in motion.

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY

Yelahanka, Bengaluru – 560064

Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

E - TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/EL/OT/WSC/2026-27/19 Dated: 02/06/2026

E - TENDER: On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer invites electronic tender for the following work online through the website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** (Works).

Sl. No.: 1. **Tender No.:** RWF/EL/OT/WSC/2026-27/19 **Dated:** 02/06/2026. **Name of the work:** Annual shutdown works of electrical control equipment of wheel shop 2026-2027. **Estimated Cost: Rs.** 5,80,388.00. **Earnest Money Deposit: Rs.** 11,600.00. **Date &Time of Closing of Tenders:** 24/06/2026 at 10.30 Hrs.

E - TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/M/OT/MMS/2026-27/20 Dated: 30/05/2026

Sl. No.: 1. **Tender No.:** RWF/M/OT/MMS/2026-27/20 **Dated:** 30/05/2026. **Name of the work:** Annual maintenance shutdown works for the SMS Group - 12. **Estimated Cost : Rs.** 12,10,312.00. **Earnest Money Deposit: Rs.** 24,200.00. **Date &Time of Closing of Tenders:** 22/06/2026 at 10.30 Hrs. **DY. CME/Melting**

E - TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/M/OT/MMR/2026-27/21 Dated: 03/06/2026

Sl. No.: 1. **Tender No.:** RWF/M/OT/MMR/2026-27/21 **Dated:** 03/06/2026. **Name of the work:** Annual shutdown works 2026 of Mould Room equipment's Group-3. **Estimated Cost: Rs.** 16,33,319.00. **Earnest Money Deposit: Rs.** 32,700.00. **Date &Time of Closing of Tenders:** 25/06/2026 at 10.30 Hrs.

E - TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/M/OT/MMR/2026-27/22 Dated: 03/06/2026

Sl. No.: 1. **Tender No.:** RWF/M/OT/MMR/2026-27/22 **Dated:** 03/06/2026. **Name of the work:** Wheel Shop Annual Shutdown 2026, Work No. 6 (MMR). **Estimated Cost: Rs.** 38, 69,023.00. **Earnest Money Deposit: Rs.** 77,400.00. **Date &Time of Closing of Tenders:** 25/06/2026 at 10.30 Hrs.

These tender notices can be viewed on our website **www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in.**

Completion period for all tenders: **12 months.** **DY. CME/W II**

Rs 5 lakh crore liabilities: Kerala white paper presses red alert

Report suggests raising retirement age from 56 to 60

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

Flagging the grim fiscal situation of Kerala, with outstanding liabilities of Rs 5.07 lakh crore, a white paper on the state's finances has suggested measures such as raising the retirement age of government employees from 56 to 60.

The report, 'Kerala's Fiscal Health: A Status Report', was tabled in the Assembly on Thursday by Chief Minister VD Satheesan, heading the newly sworn-in Congress-led UDF government.

According to the report, committed expenditure accounts for 77% of the state's total revenue receipts. Kerala's capital expenditure stands at just 1.3% of its Gross State Domestic Product, among the lowest in the country.

Even though the state had a cash balance of Rs 6,322 crore in March 2026, it fell to Rs 2,212 crore within 6 weeks, underscoring that Kerala is not financially comfortable, according to the report prepared by a panel headed by former Union Cabinet Secretary KM Chandrasekhar.

The report notes that the state spends nearly 80% of its resources on salaries, pensions, and interest — far more than many other states. With current life-expectancy rates, Kerala government employees are still in their prime when they retire at 56.

ASSEMBLY REPORT
- UDF govt tables grim fiscal report in Assembly
- 77% of revenue locked in committed expenditure
- Cash balance plunges from Rs 6,322 cr to Rs 2,212 cr
- White paper calls for closure of non-viable PSUs

"It is not right to take taxes from the people and spend most of it on salaries and pensions," the report says. Several suggestions have been made to raise the retirement age to the Centre's level of 60. The state could save around Rs 6,000 crore in retirement benefits with each one-year increase in the retirement age.

The white paper also stresses the need to revamp the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB — the body that funds state infrastructure projects by raising money from the market) and several state public sector undertakings, accusing them of draining revenue and creating huge liabilities. The KIIFB currently has an unmet loan liability of around Rs 21,000 crore, the repayment of which will fall on the state.

According to the report, Kerala has the largest number of PSUs, and most of them are running at a loss. The accumulated losses rose from Rs 31,571 crore in 2021-22 to Rs 78,851 crore in 2024-25.

With the state lacking adequate resources, the report suggests encouraging private and cooperative investments. It also recommends considering disinvestment in non-strategic PSUs and closing down non-viable ones.

The report also points out that the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) is among three PSUs that together accounted for 72% of the net loss. Kerala Social Security Pensions Limited and the Kerala Water Authority are the other loss-making undertakings.

UPSC uses face authentication technology in prelims exam

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on Thursday said that it successfully implemented face authentication technology during the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination 2026, ensuring a major boost to exam integrity and eliminating the risk of impersonation.

The system verifies that the candidate appearing for the exam matches the photograph uploaded during the application process, the UPSC said. The live, real-time face authentication was carried out at all 2,072 examination venues across the country using mobile phones. The preliminary examination was held on May 24.

Out of 8.19 lakh candidates who applied, nearly 5.49 lakh (around 67%) appeared for the exam, as per provisional data. The face authentication application was developed in-house by UPSC with technical support from the National e-Governance Division (NeGD) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

Candidates had to undergo mandatory face authentication before entering the examination hall.

Invigilators used their own Android smartphones for the verification process, eliminating the need for expensive hardware and reducing logistical challenges.

RSS chief: Lack of prep stalls India's Vishwaguru dream

NAGPUR, PTI: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday said that India can offer holistic solutions to the world that is grappling with conflicts and crises, but what is "holding us back" from becoming 'Vishwaguru' is the lack of preparation.

"India's time has come," he said, speaking at the conclusion of an RSS volunteer training camp in Nagpur, an event also attended by prominent industrialist Kumar Mangalam Birla as the chief guest.

We have been saying for long that India is or should be a 'Vishwaguru, Bhagwat said. "...India will become 'Vishwaguru', we must make India a 'Vishwaguru'. We have been saying this for a long time. So what is holding us back? What's holding us back is our lack of preparation," he said.

Referring to the West Asia conflict and how countries unconnected to it are also getting affected, Bhagwat said the world listens to those who wield power, and we need to make our country "supremely prosperous".

"Countries that have no direct connection to the conflicts of the world are nevertheless being drawn into them. The war is between Iran and America, and oil prices are rising here," the RSS chief said.

Annamalai to outline his future moves today

CHENNAI, DHNS: Former Karnataka-cadre IPS officer K Annamalai will on Friday make public his resignation from BJP and outline his plans, launching a "political movement" in Tamil Nadu.

"Tomorrow at 12 Noon, I eagerly look forward to interacting with you all on social media to share my thoughts and have an open, heart-to-heart conversation," Annamalai, who turned 42 on Thursday, wrote on his social media pages as speculation mounted over his future moves.

DMK to skip Oppn meet over Cong's 'betrayal'

Says 'cadres deeply hurt' by alliance with TVK

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

CRACKS IN BLOC
- Move seen as first step towards snapping ties with Oppn bloc
- DMK-Cong relationship soured after Tamil Nadu polls
- Party accuses Cong of betrayal after alliance with TVK
- Party vows anti-BJP stand despite distancing from Congress

The DMK on Thursday announced it will not attend the June 8 meeting of the I.N.D.I.A bloc in New Delhi, citing the sentiments of party workers "deeply hurt" by the Congress' "betrayal".

The move is widely seen as the first step towards snapping ties with the Opposition bloc, which jointly takes on the BJP in Parliament. The decades-long DMK-Congress relationship soured after the Tamil Nadu Assembly polls.

"DMK cadres have been deeply hurt by the Congress' betrayal (the party quit the alliance to join the TVK). To respect the sentiments of party workers, the DMK has decided not to attend the I.N.D.I.A meeting in which the Congress will also participate," the party said in a statement.

The DMK's announcement was not unexpected. Once the prime mover of the I.N.D.I.A bloc ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the Dravidian major has spent the past month criticising the Congress, accusing it of betrayal.

The DMK was the only Opposition party that did not condemn the attack on TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee, and it was widely anticipated that the party would distance itself from future bloc meetings.

Its strongly worded statement against the Congress comes close on the heels of the DMK further strengthening its alliance with TVK — the national party will contest the by-election to Tamil Nadu's lone Rajya Sabha seat.

Sources told *DH* the DMK was clear it could not be seen on the "same page" as the Congress, which is now allied with the ruling TVK.

"The TVK views the DMK as its political opponent. In this scenario, how can we be seen alongside its ally, the Congress, even if it is a national platform? It won't augur well for us in the long run and would send a negative message. For our survival in Tamil Nadu, we will have to stay away from the Congress," a senior DMK leader told *DH*.

The leader added that cadres want the party leadership to focus on the upcoming by-elections and on strengthening the DMK rather than fighting issues at the national level. "Our hands are full here. But we will oppose the BJP in Parliament," the leader said.

The DMK stressed it would continue to support and raise its voice on national issues, including those flagged by parties other than the Congress.

With broken Oppn bloc, Centre may push for contentious bills post UP polls

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Members vote on the women's reservation bill in the Lok Sabha during the Special session of Parliament. PTI FILE

The Centre may reintroduce the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, and the Delimitation Bill after the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections next February.

The government's previous attempt to bring in the legislation in the last parliamentary session was defeated by the Opposition.

Its reconsideration comes at a time when the I.N.D.I.A bloc is staring at a rearrangement after the DMK walked away from the alliance.

"They have asked for separate seatings, they have not condemned the attack on Abhishek Banerjee — one can read the line in between," a central minister said.

The minister said it is unlikely that the bills would be reintroduced in the monsoon session, and any such development is likely to happen after the Uttar Pradesh polls in February next year. There is also the possibility that the government would try and bring in a legislation for One Nation, One Election.

A key NDA leader confirmed the move, saying, "The BJP wants to win the women vote in 2029, and in some sense, they will have to do something concrete, or be seen as someone doing something."

The Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, was introduced to amend the Nari Shakti Adhiniyam, so that the reservation of 33%, or one-third of all seats for women in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, could be linked to the delimitation exercise.

Another bill, the Delimitation Bill, 2026, sought to increase the strength of the Lok Sabha from 543 to 816 seats following a delimitation exercise based on the 2011 Census.

The government had brought in the bills so that it is on the additional seats that the women's reservation could be implemented in the 2029 general election. When the bill was taken up in April, 298 MPs voted in favour while 230 opposed it.

However, BJP sources said they are hoping that TMC's 28 MPs and DMK's 22 members would abstain from voting.

Despite that, the numbers might fall to 493, still requiring BJP to get the support of 330 MPs. NDA has 292 MPs in the Lok Sabha. There is also an attempt to ensure the Samajwadi Party's support.

Cong names 7 candidates for RS polls

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Poll order
- The list has two Rahul Gandhi aides, Meenakshi Natarajan in MP and Praveen Chakravarty in Tamil Nadu
- Besides Kharge, Mansoor Ali Khan and Pawan Khera are the other candidates from Karnataka
- Andhra Congress president YS Sharmila was ignored
- For TN bypoll, the Congress has fielded Data Analytics department head Praveen Chakravarty

The Congress on Thursday announced seven candidates, including party chief Mallikarjun Kharge, for the upcoming Rajya Sabha election. Veteran leader Digvijaya Singh is the only sitting MP to be dropped.

The list, released late evening, has two Rahul Gandhi aides — Meenakshi Natarajan in Madhya Pradesh and Praveen Chakravarty in Tamil Nadu — and in-charge of the Congress president's office Pranav Jha. Rajasthan sitting MP Neeraj Dangi is another candidate.

Besides Kharge, AICC Secretary Mansoor Ali Khan, the son of former Rajya Sabha deputy chairman Rahman Khan, and Congress Media and Publicity Department head Pawan Khera, who belongs to Rajasthan, are the other candidates from Karnataka.

The party choosing Khera from Karnataka also meant that Andhra Pradesh Congress president YS Sharmila was ignored. She had recently met Kharge and Rahul.

While the party chose to renominate Dangi from Rajasthan, it benched Singh for Telangana in-charge Natarajan, a former Lok Sabha MP who is considered close to Rahul. There were claims by senior leaders Kamal Nath and Shobha Ojha for the seat but the leadership chose Natarajan.

Singh had earlier indicated that he may not be contesting the Rajya Sabha polls.

For the bypoll in Tamil Nadu, the Congress has fielded Professional's Congress and Data Analytics department head Chakravarty in the seat conceded to it by TVK. It also chose Jha, who is the AICC in-charge of the party president's office, from Jharkhand where a seat was allotted by alliance partner JMM.

Congress has just three sitting MPs who are retiring and if the election goes as per party strength, the Congress is likely to get seven lawmakers.

'Was it a crime to dream?' NEET-linked death breaks family

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

Akanksha Chaturvedi dreamed of becoming a doctor, a dream her family was prepared to sacrifice almost everything for.

The 18-year-old from a farming family in Madhya Pradesh's Mauganj district moved to Nagpur to prepare for the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET). To finance her education, her father took a loan of Rs 3 lakh under the Kisan Credit Card scheme and took up work as a cook in Nagpur, staying close to support her coaching and living expenses.

Like millions of young Indians seeking a better future through education, Akanksha saw medicine as a path not just to a career but also to social and economic mobility for her family. That dream ended in tragedy when she died by suicide after reportedly slipping into depression amid uncertainty surrounding the NEET paper leak.

In a post on X, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi highlighted the family's struggle and sacrifice. "Akanksha's father is a farmer. To fulfil his daughter's dream of becoming a doctor, he took a loan of Rs 3 lakh. Then the NEET paper leaked. The exam was cancelled. In that uncertainty, Akanksha left us forever," he wrote.

He also launched a political attack on the BJP-led Centre, saying, "Akanksha's death was not suicide — it's the consequence of a corrupt, broken system." Targeting PM Narendra Modi and Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Rahul alleged that students were paying the price for failures in the education system.

In a note recovered after her death, Akanksha reportedly apologised to her parents, writing that she no longer had the courage to appear for the examination again.

Her mother, Neelam Chaturvedi, broke down while speaking about her daughter. "What was my daughter's fault? Was it a crime to dream of becoming a doctor after being born into a poor family?"

Hike in financial powers for field commanders, service chiefs

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Union Defence Ministry on Thursday significantly enhanced the financial powers of field commanders and service chiefs to ensure the operational efficiency and speedy execution of projects.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved a more-than-twofold hike in the financial powers for field commanders.

Special financial powers delegated to commanders of the Indian Army, Air Force, and the Indian Navy have also been raised significantly, along with a 100% increase in the total ceiling provided. The move was aimed at meeting urgent operational requirements, said the Defence Ministry.

New provisions have been included to promote joint service procurement by the lead service with higher delegation than normal procurement, it said. Many new Competent Financial Authorities have been introduced to decentralise the procurement of goods and services.

The provisions are part of the new Delegation of Financial Powers for the Defence Services document, which Singh and other top officials — including Chief of Defence Staff Gen N S Raja Subramani — released.

The financial powers were last notified in 2021. The revision was necessitated by the expansion in the force levels and the increased expenditure on operations.

The revised delegation will facilitate procurements worth over Rs 1.25 lakh crore through the revenue route, as per current year budgetary allocations.

"The enhancement in the financial powers has been made up to 100%, and even more than double in some cases. This would further strengthen the operational efficiency of field commanders, and lead to faster conclusion of contracts and execution of projects," the ministry said.

It said the financial powers delegated for indigenisation as well as research and development within the military ecosystem had been doubled to boost "Aatmanirbharta" (self-reliance) in defence by minimising dependency on foreign original equipment manufacturers.

Sea waves lash near a broken bridge after the southwest monsoon sets over Kerala according to the IMD, in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday. PTI

Public jobs only for candidates with prescribed qualifications: SC

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has ruled that public employment must strictly adhere to prescribed qualifications, observing that allowing overqualified candidates to secure posts meant for those with lower educational qualifications deprived genuinely eligible and deserving aspirants.

A bench of Justices Ahsanuddin Amanullah and R Mahadevan also set aside a Madras High Court order that had reinstated a temporary bank attendant.

The apex court noted that the employee secured the appointment by concealing his graduate qualification. The post was for candidates with qualifications up to Class 10.

"Public employment must be made available to all eligible candidates in accordance with the prescribed qualifications... When the post was specifically intended for candidates possessing lower educational qualifications, permitting a person with higher qualifications to secure such employment would necessarily result in depriving a genuinely eligible and deserving candidate of the opportunity," the bench said.

The court emphasised that fixing an upper limit on qualifications for certain posts was both reasonable and equitable.

It aimed to extend employment opportunities to individuals who, due to various circumstances, could not pursue higher studies.

"The State, as a model employer, is justified in reserving certain categories of posts for such persons so that they are not compelled to compete with more highly-qualified candidates against whom they would ordinarily stand little chance of selection. Such a policy has consistently been upheld by the courts," the bench observed.

STELLAR SIGNALS

Using telescope near Bengaluru, scientists hunt for solar storm triggers

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

With the help of a radio telescope on the outskirts of Bengaluru, Indian astrophysicists have found a way to measure the Sun's weak magnetic fields, opening a new window to watch out for solar storms that can damage orbiting satellites.

Scientists at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru, and the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics, Pune have successfully demonstrated unambiguous measurements of the Sun's weak magnetic fields at a distance of 150 million km using the Gauribidanur observatory.

Although weak, solar magnetic fields are the primary cause for nearly all of the star's dynamic activities. Without a magnetic field, there would not be solar storms or coronal mass ejections - the most powerful explosions in the solar system. The solar blasts radically alter the space environment, creating severe space weather that can degrade, disable, or prematurely destroy spacecraft and satellites.

Attempts to measure field strengths in the solar corona are widely pursued by various groups worldwide, but measurements are elusive because the fields are very weak. There are also practical difficulties. "We have successfully demonstrated a technique to measure such weak magnetic fields. We will now monitor the Sun's magnetic fields to spot any early sign of a coronal mass ejection," R Ramesh, a team member and IIA scientist, said.

The antennae at Gauribidanur observatory.

The magnetic field strengths are less than one thousandth of a Tesla, similar to the strength created by bar magnets in school experiments. But even such small field strength can cause strong eruptions that create disturbances in the near-Earth environment and affect satellite functioning.

The team used the 50-year-old Gauribidanur observatory for the experiment. "It's a difficult and challenging measurement and the instrument has certain limitations. But they cleverly designed the experiment around these limitations. The work is important to measure the solar coronal magnetic fields during quiet times," Divya Oberoi, a scientist at NCRA who works in a similar area but is not associated with this research, told *DH*.

The study has been accepted for publication in the Astrophysical Journal.

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

CM's test: Growth amid fiscal stress

Karnataka has witnessed a generational shift in leadership with D K Shivakumar taking oath as Chief Minister. This transition signifies more than a change of guard; it reflects a shift from one political era to another. The contrast between Shivakumar and his predecessor is striking. At 78, Siddaramaiah represented a political tradition rooted in socialist ideals, backward class mobilisation, and a rural ethos. At 64, Shivakumar embodies a different Karnataka – entrepreneurial and aspirational. This is evident in his initial decisions focused on the youth: free bus travel for students up to the postgraduate level, an employment exchange aimed at securing more jobs for Kannadigas in the private sector, and Bharat Jodo clubs to promote leadership skills.

Bengaluru, however, will be his most visible test. Shivakumar has begun on the right note by sanctioning Rs 2,000 crore for road repairs in the capital. A bigger challenge, though, is restoring grassroots democracy by holding long-delayed elections to the Greater Bengaluru Authority and other local bodies. He inherits a state that has performed strongly across most economic indicators, including Gross State Domestic Product, Foreign Direct Investment, Goods and Services Tax collections, and per capita income. His task is not merely to preserve this momentum but to elevate it. He must also address the persistent disparity between the prosperous South and the less-developed northern districts. While Karnataka has witnessed growth in agriculture, industry, and services, it cannot rely indefinitely on service-led expansion concentrated in Bengaluru. It must diversify towards manufacturing and industrialisation across districts to generate broad-based growth and employment. Shivakumar's reputation as a go-getter who fast-tracks projects is a distinct strength, but he must balance decisiveness with consensus. Equally important is safeguarding Karnataka's reputation for communal harmony and social stability.

The government will need to reconcile welfare commitments with economic goals and budget realities

His room for manoeuvre, however, is limited. With five guarantee schemes consuming over Rs 50,000 crore annually and a revenue deficit of Rs 22,957 crore, fiscal space is tight – especially when committed expenditure on salaries, pensions, and interest payments accounts for 60% of the budget. Balancing welfare commitments with infrastructure investment and fiscal prudence will be a defining challenge. For Shivakumar to succeed, the Congress high command must give him a free hand while maintaining necessary checks and balances. Multiple power centres would distract him from governance. His task is not merely to run the government but also to position the Congress for victory in 2028. He will be judged not as an organiser or strategist, but by whether he can translate Karnataka's economic promise into tangible improvements in the lives of its people.

A moral compass to steer the AI age

Pope Leo XIV has joined the debate on Artificial Intelligence with his 40,000-word encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas* issued last month, calling upon the world to take an ethical view of AI and adopt safeguards against its misuse. The head of the Catholic Church, in a detailed and thoughtful analysis of the technology moving the world, made an appeal to keep it "human-centred" and ensure that its power is not translated into authority over human life. The Vatican clarified that the argument is not for rejecting the technology, but to make it serve people responsibly and to protect their dignity. Warning against monopolistic control of the technology, the Pope said the world should learn from the fallouts of the social media age.

Popes have in the past expressed their views on important ideas and events in human history. While they have influenced the actions of governments and the thinking of societies, they have been regarded primarily as talking points, advisories, or suggestions in recent times. In 1891, Pope Leo XIII responded to the Industrial Revolution in his encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*, calling for harmonious relations between capital and labour, while supporting the workers' rights and the cause of social justice. Such thinking and concerns have shaped important discourses and guided societies in times of distress. Beyond the theological intent in the Pope's position on AI, there is a human message that transcends faith and religion. Each generation has a responsibility to preserve the dignity of the individual, promote justice, and encourage fraternity. The message also urges the world to see an important distinction: AI is not morally neutral, so it cannot be judged only in terms of the technologies it entails.

The Pope's encyclical is a necessary call for ethical guardrails as AI races ahead of regulation

The Pope's is not an isolated voice; others have stated apprehensions about the role AI may have on human lives. These concerns find expression when new ideas and technologies emerge. They are necessary when the world is in a race to expand the frontiers of technology. Such expansive endeavours risk becoming reckless and reaching a stage where the distinction between public good and private profit is extinguished. At a time when there is discussion about human functionalities and agencies being taken over by algorithms, at a time when autonomous warfare is in the realm of possibility, there is a need to assert that man is the measure of all technology and ideology. This is why the Pope's call for internal restraint and external regulation of the technology resonates with the world.

PROCESS AS PROHIBITION

Right to strike: A moment of reckoning

Laws in India have eroded workers' powers for collective bargaining. The ICJ's ruling must prompt reform

SOPHY K J

On May 21, 2026, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) delivered one of the most consequential advisory opinions in the history of international labour law. By ten votes to four, the world's highest court held that the right to strike of workers and their organisations is protected under Convention No. 87 (the Convention) of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), titled the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948. The opinion resolves a dispute that created an 'institutional crisis' at the ILO's 2012 Conference and left workers in a state of legal uncertainty. This ICJ decision invites a revisit to Indian labour law on the right to strike.

The Committee of Experts, the ILO's primary supervisory body, had since 1959 progressively declined to interpret a blanket prohibition of strikes based on the Convention. By 1992, it had explicitly held that Article 3 guarantees workers' organisations the right to "organise their activities and formulate their programmes," including recourse to strikes. The employers' group rejected this reasoning, arguing that the Convention mentions no such right. In a moment of supreme irony, the governing body referred the question to the ICJ in 2023.

The ICJ applied the standard interpretive methodology of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, specifically the ordinary meaning, context, object, and purpose of the Convention and subsequent State practices. ICJ read Articles 2, 3, and 10 of Convention No. 87 together to conclude that the right to create and join organisations for the purpose of defending workers' interests, and to organise their "activities" and "programmes" for that purpose, naturally encompasses strike action. The Court surveyed the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Arab Charter on Human Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights, the European Social Charter, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and the Inter-American instruments. Across these frameworks, the same conclusion emerged in the ICJ's opinion, which held the right to strike as an international labour right.

However, the holding has left a question unanswered. It has answered only whether the right exists, not what it contains. Questions regarding permissible restrictions, essential services, notice requirements, cooling-off periods, public sector exclusions, and the conditions under which a strike loses legal protection -- all remain to be worked out within the space the Convention permits.

As a founding member of the ILO, India has not ratified Convention No. 87 despite its notification as a fundamental convention since 1998. Indian workers have not enjoyed a guaranteed right to strike historically. The Trade

Disputes Act 1929, enacted during the colonial period, treated strikes as threats to state order, requiring prior approval. Rule 89 of the Defence of India Rules, 1939, went further, treating strikes as acts against the State itself. The Industrial Disputes Act 1947 maintained this essentially negative legal framework. Strike was not recognised as a right, but was merely rendered conditionally legal if workers complied with the notice and procedural requirements of Sections 22, 23, and 24. For workers in non-public utility establishments, the notice was not mandatory, and they could engage in legal strikes if no dispute resolution process was initiated.

Teeth for a paper tiger

The Supreme Court, in *Kameshwar Prasad & Ors. v. State of Bihar* (1962), expressly separated demonstration from strike. The demonstration was considered a form of expression covered under Article 19(1)(a), but not a strike. Further, the Court, in *B R Singh v. Union of India* (1990) provided a broader articulation, holding that a "strike in a given situation is only a form of demonstration" and that "the right to demonstrate and therefore the right to strike is an important weapon in the armoury of the workers." This Court linked the right to demonstration, inclusive of strike, with Article 19 (1) (a) of the Constitution. *T K Rangarajan v. State of Tamil Nadu* (2003), without referring to these judgments, held that there is no moral, constitutional and statutory right to strike, which invited criticism as bad law.

The Industrial Relations Code 2020 repealed the Industrial Disputes Act and changed the law relating to strikes. Under Section 62(1)(a) of the IR Code, fourteen days' advance notice is mandatory for strikes across all establishments, unlike merely in public utility services under the ID Act. Furthermore, Section 53 requires that conciliation proceedings begin the moment such notice is sent to the conciliation officer. And Section 62(1)(d) prohibits strikes during the pendency of conciliation proceedings. The logic of the notice is circular: the moment workers send the notice, the employer must begin conciliation, and a strike becomes illegal once conciliation starts. Therefore, the right to strike doesn't exist in the operational sense. It is this procedural suffocation rather than outright prohibition that brings back the colonial logic of no strike without State intervention.

The ICJ's advisory opinion should play a substantive role in creating a positive right to strike in Indian law. As the Supreme Court recognised in *Gujarat Steel Tubes v. Gujarat Steel Tubes Mazdoor Sabha* (1980), it is an intrinsic element of collective bargaining and a "safety valve" for labour against capital. Without it, as *Management of Kairbetta Estate v. Rajamanickam* (1960) affirmed, the freedom to form unions becomes, in the Court's evocative phrase, "a paper tiger."

When the right to strike inside the factory is extinguished, workers cannot accept silence, as their exploitation is an existential question. They take to the streets, as we saw in the recent Noida strikes. During the colonial period, one of the employers' blocs, the Bombay Textile Mill Owners' Association, promoted unionisation and their activities, precisely to channel grievance into negotiation and to avoid strikes for long duration, which is a lesson that Indian law has forgotten.

(The writer is an associate professor and Director, Centre for Labour Law Research and Advocacy at the National Law University, Delhi)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

The great Suryavansh debate

The more my friend and I spoke, the stranger the discussion became

SUNIL WARRIER

For several minutes, my friend and I appeared to be having a perfectly normal conversation. We exchanged opinions, challenged each other's views and cited examples in support of our arguments. Only later did we realise that the conversation had one major flaw: We were discussing two completely different things.

"I look forward to seeing him every day," I said.

My friend shook his head. "Every day? I spend half my life trying to avoid exactly that. "Haven't we suffered enough already?" he asked.

I was surprised by his reaction. After all, what was there not to like? Youth, promise, confidence and the ability to make people sit up and take notice. The nation loves a new sensation, and this one has arrived with considerable fanfare.

My friend remained unconvinced. "Fanfare? It has been around for decades. Every time I switch on the television, there it is. Morning, afternoon, evening. Festivals, holidays, power cuts permitting—it never seems to go away."

I wondered if he was exaggerating and didn't pay much attention to the 'it'. "Come on," I said. "The whole country is excited. People discuss performances, speculate about the future and eagerly wait for his next outing."

"Exactly my problem," he replied. "How many outings can one person endure? There should be a limit. Some things are best enjoyed occasionally, not repeatedly."

The debate continued. I pointed to growing popularity, social media buzz and the excitement of watching a young talent blossom. My friend countered with tales of endless reruns; remote controls surrendered in defeat and family members who could recite dialogues from memory.

At one point, I mentioned how remarkable it was that someone so young could command such attention. My friend nodded gravely and said that age had nothing to do with it; the phenomenon had survived the passage of time and showed no signs of weakening.

The more we spoke, the stranger the discussion became. I praised freshness and novelty; he lamented familiarity and repetition. I talked about anticipation before every appearance. He talked about resignation every time an appearance began. Yet somehow neither of us suspected that something was amiss.

"People cannot stop talking about him, he has captured the imagination of the public," I said.

"That is because they cannot escape him. He has captured entire television schedules," my friend replied.

I thought he was being dramatic. He thought I was being naïve.

Finally, I decided to clarify. "Are we talking on the same subject? I am talking about Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, the new teen sensation."

"What nonsense, I was referring to the Amitabh Bachchan starrer *Suryavansham* which is shown repeatedly on a television channel," he said.

One of us cannot wait to see Sooryavanshi every day while the other has already seen enough of *Suryavansham* for several generations.

Confusion cleared, we rose above mean sea level when our wives entered the room perturbed hearing the strange cacophony of laughter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Karnataka's new CM has started his innings well

D K Shivakumar deserves congratulations for the extreme patience he has shown, which has finally been rewarded with his becoming the chief minister of Karnataka (DKS on day one as CM: Free bus travel for students, jobs for locals, Jun 4). In a way, he has displayed great sagacity by accommodating many of his predecessor Sri Siddaramaiah's loyalists. The transfer of power was smooth and hassle-free. Shivakumar has little time to make an impact on the minds of voters, as the next Assembly election is just two years away. It will require all his ingenuity to create a favourable impression and pave the way for the Congress' re-election. He faces two challenges: settling contractors' pending bills and giving a fillip to developmental works to give Karnataka a new face. Immediately after taking office, he announced free bus travel for students and jobs for locals, both of which appear to be pragmatic decisions.

Satya Bapu, Mysuru

Don't ignore safety

The increasing incidents of fire across the country — we have witnessed some of the worst accidents, including the latest devastating fire in Delhi's Malviya Nagar, which claimed 21 lives and injured many others — have exposed the poor state of fire safety measures. Authorities must ensure the strict implementation of fire safety norms in business establishments as well as residential complexes. Many recent incidents point to a persistent gap between safety rules on paper and their implementation on the ground. State governments across the country must carry out comprehensive fire safety audits of all commercial and residential buildings.

Ramesh G Jethwani, Bengaluru

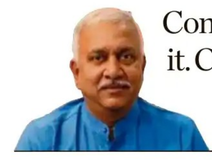
Premature prediction

In what appears to be wishful thinking, Rahul Gandhi has predicted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lose his office within a year owing to the economic turmoil the country is facing. The Congress MP must surely know it is not just India but the entire world that is suffering from the wars in Europe and West Asia. Modi's popularity is unaffected, if the Bengal election results are an indication.

H S Gopal, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT



In Bengal, Congress allied with TMC and TMC lost. In Bihar, RJD is gone. In Maharashtra, the alliance lost power. In TN, DMK is out too. People reject Congress and whoever aligns with it. Congress will soon be nowhere.

Narayanan Thirupathy, BJP spokesperson

Continue to learn with humility, not hubris. Hubris is boring.

Jimmy Iovine

TO BE PRECISE

IN PERSPECTIVE

Climate action must begin at the coast

Rising risks expose India's fragmented ocean governance. Policy should prioritise blue carbon ecosystems

ANANT PANDE

As a marine scientist, I spend a lot of time thinking about connections between species and habitats, rivers and seas, and increasingly, climate and ocean governance. Yet, one disconnect stands out. While the ocean is a single interconnected system, we govern it through fragmented institutions and boundaries. This World Environment Day, themed Climate Action, offers an opportunity to examine that gap.

Climate change is no longer a land-bound challenge. It is beginning to reshape monsoons, amplify rainfall extremes, and disrupt marine ecosystems. Nowhere is this more visible than in the waters around India.

Marine heatwaves in the Arabian Sea have intensified sharply over the past few decades, with their frequency rising by two additional events per decade. Cyclonic activity has surged. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) reported 15 cyclonic disturbances in 2025 alone, compared to the average of 11.2 per year. Very severe cyclones last longer, intensify more rapidly, and strike with greater unpredictability. The World Bank estimated the damage from Cyclone Amphan in 2020 at $4.9 billion.

Crucially, these events impact seascapes not aligned with existing governance frameworks, making adaptation even more challenging.

National boundaries extend to 12 nautical miles and Exclusive Economic Zones to 200 nautical miles, beyond which are the largely unregulated high seas. Marine species do not recognise these boundaries. Endangered Arabian Sea humpback whales and dugongs move through the Strait of Hormuz – presently the most geopolitically sensitive waterway – while humpback dolphins navigate coastlines increasingly shaped by coastal development. Their movements cut across political jurisdictions and management regimes, exposing a fundamental mismatch between ecological realities and static boundaries.

One way forward is to re-evaluate and manage coastal ecosystems. Mangroves, seagrass meadows, seaweed beds, and salt marshes – blue carbon ecosystems – are the most effective natural systems for capturing and storing carbon. They protect shorelines, support fisheries, improve water quality, and sustain coastal livelihoods.

India has a significant share of these ecosystems. The country is home to nearly 5,000 sq km of mangroves, 500 sq km of seagrass meadows, and widespread but poorly mapped salt marshes around 300-1,000 sq km. Seaweed beds are found along the entire coastline, supporting a growing aquaculture sector. Though they occupy relatively small areas, their contribution to biodiversity and local economies is far greater.

This presents an opportunity to rethink India's climate policy framework. The country's Nationally Determined Contributions focus on expanding forest and tree cover to create additional carbon sinks, but they do not explicitly recognise blue carbon ecosystems. Simultaneously, India is placing growing emphasis on the Blue Economy, which is central to the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision with ambitions of reaching $100 billion. This economic vision must fully align with climate and conservation priorities.

There are signs of progress. Initiatives such as MISHTI recognise the importance of mangroves for livelihoods, coastal protection, and carbon storage, while wetland restoration efforts draw attention to salt marshes and other neglected ecosystems. But these efforts still lack the scale and coordination needed to create long-term impact.

Reframing policy

A more integrated approach could change this. Bringing mangroves, seagrasses, and salt marshes into climate commitments would not only improve how these ecosystems are managed but also help attract investment and strengthen planning.

The potential is already visible. In Odisha, community-led seaweed production reached 5,000 tonnes, supporting thousands of coastal households. Equally important is planning the use of ocean space. Decisions about ports, fisheries, offshore energy, and coastal infrastructure need to account not just for economic returns but also for impacted ecosystems and processes. Healthy ecosystems cannot be treated as an afterthought – they are coastal infrastructure in their own right.

For a country with over 11,000 km of coastline and close to 150 million people living in coastal districts dependent on marine resources, this is not just an environmental concern. Developing a National Blue Carbon Framework would be an important step in bringing together climate policy, coastal management, and ocean governance under a unified approach. This would require better mapping and monitoring of coastal ecosystems, closer coordination across ministries, and stronger links between scientific knowledge and policy decisions.

The ocean has always functioned as a connected system. In a warming world, our policies must reflect that reality more closely than they have so far.

(The writer is Head – Oceans and Coasts Conservation, WWF-India)

Star power and the political divide between Tamil and Hindi cinema

HARISH S WANKHEDE

Tamil Nadu has long nurtured a peculiar yet potent political tradition: cinema is not merely consumed as a medium of entertainment but wielded as an instrument that shapes the choices of the electorate. From the legendary and tranformative tenures of M G Ramachandran (MGR) and J Jayalalithaa to the more ambivalent political experiments of Rajinikanth, Kamal Haasan, Khushbu, and Vijayakanth, the state has repeatedly witnessed celluloid icons transform into formidable political leaders.

Tamil superstar C Joseph Vijay is the latest to make the journey from the silver screen to the legislative assembly. His stunning victory in the recent Assembly elections has generated considerable public interest and renewed debate on the enduring relationship between cinema and electoral democracy in Tamil Nadu.

In contrast, Hindi cinema too has witnessed maverick superstars and iconic screen heroes, but they remained at the peripheries of the mainstream political process. Rather than viewing actors as political saviours, Hindi film audiences are bewitched by cinema's ideological hegemony that often serves the cultural and class interests of the conventional ruling elites.

Many political pundits have classified Vijay's meteoric rise as a distinctly Gen Z phenomenon. A significant cross-section of young voters has grown increasingly disillusioned with Tamil Nadu's long-dominant Dravidian parties, which some view as entrenched in rigid regional dynamics and the rhetoric of social justice politics. In this context, Vijay's stardom and promise of political renewal have resonated with sections of the youth electorate seeking change.

Tamil Nadu's cinematic landscape is unique. Few film industries have forged such a profound, enduring relationship between cinema and politics. For decades, the local cinema halls have functioned as informal 'political classrooms', mainstreaming ideas of social justice, anti-caste politics and Tamil cultural pride through sharp, emotive narratives.

What distinguishes Tamil cinema, though often characterised by hyper-drama, patriarchal values and gravity-defying action, is its deep-seated social realism. Screen icons such as MGR, Rajinikanth, and Vijay meticulously crafted on-screen persona as incorruptible, courageous saviours battling systemic corruption on behalf of the poor and marginalised people. Consequently, when these stars transition to the political stage, the electorate does not view them as mere actors; they trust them as direct, authentic extensions of their cinematic avatars.

In contrast, the Hindi film industry has rarely produced maverick superstars capable of leading mass political movements. While icons like Amitabh Bachchan, Sunil Dutt, Dharmendra, Hema Malini, and Kangana Ranaut have registered notable innings in parliament, none possessed the grassroots gravity required to ignite an independent, people-led political wave.

Historically, the Hindi screen hero has frequently mirrored the saviour protagonist—whether through Amitabh Bachchan's anti-establishment angst in *Inquilaab*, Sunny Deol's crusade against exploitative capitalism in *Ghayal*, or Akshay Kumar's institutional reforms in *Gabbar*. Yet, Bollywood audiences have strictly maintained the divide between the reel and the real. While fans might gather in historic hordes outside Shah Rukh Khan's villa to celebrate his birthday, these fan bases are built around celebrity adulation rather than being organised into disciplined, ideological cadres primed for socio-political campaigns. Bollywood has largely viewed cinema as a commercial product, leaving it toothless when attempting to ignite a radical, lasting social consciousness among marginalised groups.

The fundamental distinction between the two industries lies in how cinema is weaponised as a tool for public mobilisation versus how it is consumed as a commercial commodity. While Kollywood supplements the political rhetoric of social justice, class-based illumination, and regional pride, Bollywood treats cinema as an industrial product, manufactured strictly for mass entertainment.

For decades, Bollywood's relative distancing from politics assured it a sort of autonomy as a creative institution – one that educated and entertained the masses without engaging deeply in the ideological sycophancy of the ruling elites. Even the leftist-laden 'parallel' cinema was critical to the political establishment, ignited intellectual reflexivity and was admired as an honest and creative art form. However, with the recent, aggressive rise of the 'Hindutva' genre of cinema, this historic autonomy is rapidly dwindling.

Ironically, this new wave of Hindi cinema has co-opted the hyper-dramatic, emotive utility of the Tamil film model but turned its ideological tilt completely on its head. While popular Tamil cinema achieved its ethical status by fiercely championing the vulnerabilities of the poor and lower-caste groups, the emerging Hindutva genre frequently does the opposite. It functions as a formidable instrument to legitimise the domination of the ruling dispensation, often weaponising regressive communal narratives against the Muslims while remaining overtly detached from the economic realities of the impoverished social groups.

As Chief Minister Vijay embarks on his political journey; he serves as a reminder of the power of cinema when aligned with progressive, grassroots empathy. Meanwhile, Bollywood stands at a crossroads: having traded its artistic independence for majoritarian compliance, it risks losing both its creative soul and its democratic relevance.

(The writer is an assistant professor at the Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences in Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi)

Mehdi Taj said his federation has been dealing with FIFA, not the United States, in trying to obtain visas for Iran to play in the tournament that begins next week

Iran's World Cup campaign confronts geopolitical reality

TARIQ PANJA

Iran's team training in Antalya, Turkey, on Tuesday. AP

Iran's preparations for the upcoming World Cup in North America have unfolded against the backdrop of war, bellicose language and continuing doubts that the national team will receive visas in time.

The unease has already led to meetings between Iranian officials and the top leaders of FIFA, soccer's global governing body. At the centre of it has been Mehdi Taj, the longtime president of Iran's soccer federation. In a rare interview, Taj, a former commander in Iran's Revolutionary Guard, left little doubt whom he blames for the complications.

As Iran's national team prepared to set off for Mexico instead of the United States, a last-minute change brought on by the continuing tension, Taj said the decision was made with FIFA to minimise the team's time in the United States, which he blames for all of the uncertainty over Iran's World Cup participation.

On a video call, Taj pointed out that Iran had been the third team to qualify for what will be the biggest World Cup in history — spanning the United States, Canada and Mexico, with 48 teams competing — and the first to feature a host at war with one of the competing nations.

The preparations, he said, had been affected in ways that have disadvantaged his team. The most recent was the abrupt change of its World Cup base from the United States to Tijuana, Mexico, near the US border. The decision followed talks with FIFA in Turkey, where the team has been practicing for much of the past month.

Speaking from Tehran, Iran's capital, on Tuesday, Taj expressed deep disappointment that visa applications for the squad, which is slated to play three games in the United States, on the West Coast, had still not been approved.

The World Cup begins next Thursday, and Iran's first game is scheduled four days later against New Zealand in Los Angeles. Iran had planned to be based in Tucson, Arizona, before FIFA announced that the team would instead be based in Tijuana.

Iran's presence at the tournament with no end in sight to the war with the United States is one of the biggest crises in the World Cup's nearly 100-year history.

A host nation, Taj asserted, should not have the authority to disrupt the preparations of qualified teams. Since the war began in late February, both US and Iranian officials, including President Donald Trump and even Taj, have sowed uncertainty with shifting claims.

Taj said the killing of Iran's supreme leader at the start of the war and the bombing of a school that killed more than 100 children had created a "cloud of ambiguity" over Iran's participation. But he said Iranian officials had since held productive talks with FIFA's leadership, including its president, Gianni Infantino, to lay the groundwork for the team to play.

Infantino, who has a close relationship with Trump, travelled to Turkey in March to show support for Iran's team, and last month FIFA's top administrator, Mattias Grafström, met with Iranian officials.

"We are only in contact with FIFA and are not in contact with the United States," Taj said, "and don't know what their thoughts are."

Taj has encountered difficulty travelling in recent months. He was among officials denied credentials for the tournament draw in Washington in December. Last month, Canadian authorities revoked his documents as he was transiting to Vancouver via Toronto for FIFA's annual meeting. Taj said that after several hours of talks with Canadian officials, he returned home in protest with the rest of Iran's delegation.

The Revolutionary Guard is an Iranian group that the United States and Canada have designated a terrorist entity.

Taj said he no longer had any relationship with the Guard, but he argued that the group had widespread support in Iran. In Canada, he said, he and others in Iran's delegation "spent the time defending the country" under questioning from border officials in Toronto.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said at a recent White House appearance alongside Trump that trainers and other officials with ties to the Revolutionary Guard would not be allowed into the United States.

Several players on Iran's roster, including its captain, have completed mandatory military service with the Revolutionary Guard, Taj said.

Visa troubles before the World Cup led the Iranians, he said, to "suspect that it was possible that the US would create some serious problems for us."

On Monday, the team released its official roster in a video on social media, and it has one more tuneup game, against Mali, before its planned departure to its base in Mexico. Sardar Azmoun, a star player who drew criticism for a social media post after the war started that some officials branded disloyal, was left off the squad.

Taj spoke positively of the last-minute switch of bases, saying Tijuana offered better conditions than Tucson because it was closer to Los Angeles, where two of Iran's games will be played, and has a better climate and easier transportation links.

He was less forthcoming about how the change came about. Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum has said that FIFA asked her country for help because the "United States does not want the Iranian team staying overnight in the country."

Taj said he was unaware that the United States had made any such request. "We came to the conclusion mutually with FIFA that we want our presence in the US to be as minimum as possible," he said.

For FIFA, the crisis requires careful navigation: satisfying an expectant host nation, reassuring a qualified team and maintaining political neutrality. That neutrality has already been questioned because of Infantino's warm relationship with Trump.

Taj said that under FIFA's "Fair Play" principle, all qualifying nations must be treated equally, and that protecting that principle from political interference was FIFA's responsibility, not Iran's.

FIFA did not respond to a request for comment.

Asked whether he was confident that the opening game would take place, Taj offered no assurances.

"You should ask FIFA," he said.

Of the 48 teams competing at the World Cup, Iran's presence is by far the most fraught. Ever since the United States and Israel jointly attacked Iran in late February, the team's participation has been in doubt, subjected to scrutiny and confusion.

With a little over a week until the start of the tournament, which the United States is hosting with Mexico and Canada, Iran is continuing preparations at a training camp in the coastal city of Antalya, Turkey, for three matches on the US West Coast. FIFA has said from the outset that Iran will participate as planned. But the team's qualification has caused intense difficulties for FIFA, whose president, Gianni Infantino, has a close relationship with President Donald Trump.

At a meeting last month in Turkey with FIFA's second-ranking official, Iranian officials raised a number of concerns and demands, including about protests they might face and, most urgently, entry visas.

No members of the team, its coaches or support staff had yet been issued visas, when the team issued a statement over the weekend regarding a letter that it sent FIFA "requesting transparency and clarification regarding the visa issuance process."

"FIFA was explicitly asked to provide a clear determination on this matter," the statement said. "As of the time of this statement, no response or update has been received. Therefore, it should be noted that visas for both the United States and Mexico have not yet been issued for members of the Iran National Team delegation."

In April, hours after Infantino told FIFA members in Vancouver that Iran's participation was not in doubt, Trump backed him up from the White House. "Well, if Gianni said it, I'm OK," he told reporters in the Oval Office. **NYT**

Songs of jogappas

SWARUPA DEB

On a monsoon afternoon at Janapada Loka in Ramanagara, I heard jogthi music for the first time. The singers, a group of ageing jogappas, sang in high-pitched, trembling voices, accompanied by the rhythm of *tāḷa* (cymbals). The music carried the intensity of prayer and the softness of a devotional song. Draped in bright saris, adorned with glass bangles, *kumkuma* on their foreheads, the jogappas closed their eyes, swayed rhythmically and continued singing in reverie.

Jogappas have long occupied a distinctive place in the devotional and cultural fabric of northern Karnataka. They are individuals assigned male at birth who articulate their identity as women. Their identity finds expression through jogthi music, a remarkable body of oral literature that has travelled across generations without written records.

Jogti music is not merely devotional songs but a cultural archive that recounts the local lore, legends and mythological tales, speaks of love and abandonment, poverty and resilience, desire and faith. Yet despite its richness, jogthi music remains largely absent from mainstream discussions of Karnataka's cultural heritage.

Jogthi music is strikingly different from the polished presentation of classical music. The song often unfolds slowly, building through repetition, and the style frequently oscillates between speech and melody, prayer and storytelling. Rather than striving for technical perfection, the tones shift with the singers' emotions, the rhythm changes unexpectedly, and a song may stretch for several minutes before settling into its narrative. One moment, the jogappas are singing praises of a deity; in the next, they are gently mocking a local incident or reflecting on hardship. They are at once devotional and worldly.

Performances are often interrupted for a quick laugh, banter, or feelings of intense emotion. There are moments where a jogappa will burst into laughter in the middle of a song and moments later slip into tears without interrupting the melody. Their music has room for both emotions simultaneously. Jogthi music is not a performance delivered to an audience but an act of devotion, collective participation, and social commentary flowing into one another.

"*Īhāḍu nammadalla*" (the song is not ours), a jogappa had once told me, "*mēlinda bandaddu*" (it came from above).

This relationship between music and devotion gives jogthi music its extraordinary emotional force. Instruments such as the *chowdike* and *tāḷa* produce repetitive, mesmerising rhythms that support long narrative performances. I have often observed audiences falling into an unusual silence when a jogappa begins singing.

In a time when typical conversations about transgender lives are often framed through legal battles won, firsts achieved, and normative inclusion, the jogappas stand as evidence that Karnataka has long possessed its own vocabulary for understanding gender diversity.

Long before the language of LGBTQ+ rights entered public spaces, communities such as the jogappas challenged rigid gender ideas through devotional tradition and music. The world of the jogappas is inseparable from their devotional tradition, and their music is an intrinsic part of it. Yet despite their cultural importance, only a few learn about the community's artistic contributions or their socio-economic vulnerability. Many jogappas come from Dalit and other marginalised caste backgrounds. They experience poverty, social stigma, housing insecurity, and limited access to education and healthcare. Several continue to depend on ritual singing and alms collection to survive.

In recent years, a renewed interest in jogthi music and performance traditions has brought some visibility to the community. Collaborations with prominent artists and contributions of a few community members in promoting their art have brought jogappa singers onto urban cultural platforms and music festivals. Yet this visibility also raises difficult questions. What happens when such music enters elite cultural spaces? Can such visibility risk exoticising the identity?

There are no easy answers. Greater visibility can create opportunities, generate income, and ensure that a fragile oral tradition like jogthi music is not forgotten. At the same time, there is a risk that audiences celebrate the 'aesthetics' of jogappa music while remaining indifferent to the everyday realities of the communities that sustain it. As jogthi music moves from shrines to *jatres* to concert halls, cultural festivals, and even international music scenes, we as audiences need to appreciate that it is simultaneously a living devotional practice, a repository of oral history, and an artistic tradition, while also offering a striking reminder about the many ways gender is expressed.

Especially this Pride Month, a time when discussions on queer life in India are increasingly reduced to pathological governance regimes and draconian legal frameworks, jogthi music reminds us that gender-diverse lives also exceed the narrow confines through which it is often imagined.

(The writer is a human rights lawyer and sociologist)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: JUNE 1976

'Miracles' investigation

Bangalore, June 4
The Bangalore University committee, set up in April for scientific investigation of miracles and other verifiable superstitions, would create public opinion against the non-cooperative attitude of "miracle men" in subjecting them to investigation, the committee Chairman and the University Vice-Chancellor, Dr. H. Narasimhiah, said here today. He said the committee had decided to concentrate its attention on the claim of materialising objects from nowhere. The committee would take up steps for investigation of the "miracle boy near Mandya," he said.

25 YEARS AGO: JUNE 2001

Riots erupt as Gyanendra is crowned king

Kathmandu, June 4
Amid mounting tension in the Nepalese capital, Mr. Gyanendra, proclaimed the Regent barely three days ago, became the new King of the Himalayan Kingdom this morning after Dipendra, badly injured in the Friday Palace shooting, was formally pronounced dead. Clinically alive for the last three days, Dipendra was declared dead by the doctors at the Birendra Military Hospital at 3:30 am. Within hours of the coronation, the entire capital city was brought under curfew to stem violent street protests by huge crowds.

OASIS | MEERA SESHADRI

The art of healthy inquisitiveness

A few days ago, a friend was fuming and fretting over the 'filthy inquisitive' ways of her female colleague. "Her eyes, ears, and even olfactory senses are eternally trained on everyone/everything around. So, she is always alert to even the slightest of sounds, smells, and sights! Naturally, her own work would be ever shoddy, with not a scintilla of focus in it. Even if she sees a pack of wafers in my palms, with pinpoint precision, she'd parrot out its particular brand! I hate to utter this, but the unvarnished truth is how utterly uncouth it is to be that 'ultra-inquisitive'.

Well, it is not uncommon to find these 'nosy parkers' everywhere, who are ever prying on what others are doing/talking about/even eating. Here, I recall the remarks of a relative, who often gets nettled over the noxious ways of her 'nosy neighbour': "This one fritters away colossal time in constantly keeping a close check on me. She has 360-degree, tirelessly roving eyes. She always keeps gawking at my attire and anatomy while ignoring awful stains on her own apparel."

The distraught words of both had me dive into deep deliberations. Truly, some of us surprisingly squander time and energy on studying others and their lifestyles. The plenitude of posts and pictures, posted on social media platforms, seems to be profusely pandering to people's prying minds. And the fabulous reward for fiery inquisitiveness is fluster/frustration in following up the 'superficial' fun-filled posts.

Now, as an antidote, why not try assigning positive tweaks to negative inquisitive traits? For instance, say, at the workplace, when we identify an individual with inspiring qualities, we can be inquisitive enough to know how s/he imbibed those impressive attributes and later try instilling it in ourselves. Yes, one can foster feisty inquisitiveness in finding out about a fusillade of other things. Like, names of flowering trees during fun strolls in fabulous gardens; working of vehicle engines while commuting to work; significance behind several rituals/festivals ... The diversified knowledge is akin to a deadly massive ocean, and data stored in us doesn't equal even a droplet. Indubitably, there are dollops of knowledge to imbue rather than dissipating time in being 'unduly inquisitive of unneeded issues' – which delivers not a dime of dividend.

Draft Supreme Court rules bar use of AI for core judicial decision-making

Courts have been encouraged to deploy AI for several non-adjudicatory tasks

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

In a significant move to regulate emerging technologies in the justice delivery system, the Supreme Court has released draft 'Regulations for Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in courts', emphasising human oversight while harnessing the tool's potential to tackle the massive backlog of cases.

The draft norms, prepared by the Supreme Court's Artificial Intelligence Committee, explicitly bars the use of AI for core judicial decision-making even as they permit its application in administrative and supportive functions.

"No judicial outcome shall be reached through Algorithmic Decision-Making alone," the draft states, inviting comments and suggestions from stakeholders and the public by June 20. The regulations will apply across the Supreme Court, HCs, subordinate courts, tribunals, and statutory commissions performing adjudicatory functions in the country.

The need for a clear framework has grown amid rising instances of AI tools generating "hallucinated" or non-existent case laws, which have reportedly influenced some judgments in lower courts. At the same time, the apex court has recognised AI's utility in translating judgments into regional languages and improving legal research efficiency.

The 35-page document is grounded in principles of human primacy, transparency, accountability, data protection, and judicial independence.

It draws a firm "red line", asserting that AI tools must remain strictly assistive and can never replace human judgment.

"Every AI System shall function solely in an assistive capacity and shall not supplant or compromise the independent exercise of judicial authority," the draft says.

The ultimate authority on matters of law, facts, and justice will rest exclusively with judicial officers. Regulation 20 specifically prohibits the use of AI for delivering judgments, sentencing, or assessing the credibility of witnesses. All adjudicatory functions must follow a "Human-in-the-Loop" (HITL) approach, ensuring that final decisions are taken by humans.

Courts have been encouraged to deploy AI for several non-adjudicatory tasks, including case management, identification of defects in filings, automated transcription of proceedings, translation of judgments and legal documents into regional languages, legal research, summarising pleadings and documents, guided chatbots for litigants.

5 killed in Bihar hospital fire; Rs 4 lakh ex gratia for kin

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

At least five persons died and 20 were severely injured in a major fire at a private hospital in Muzaffarpur on Thursday.

It is suspected that the fire broke out due to a short circuit in the Intensive Care Unit of Prasad Hospital in the wee hours of Thursday.

Radha Devi, a 93-year-old patient in the ICU, raised alarm around 3.30 am after she detected smoke.

Of the 24 patients in the hospital, 13 were in the ICU on the fifth floor, sources said. Fire officer R N Pandey said it took hours to control the blaze that gutted the hospital.

"Around 3.55 am, we received an emergency call and a fire brigade team was immediately rushed to the site. Many of the patients were evacuated and shifted to nearby hospitals," he said.

Muzaffarpur district magistrate Subrat Kumar Sen said action would taken after the inquiry.

Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary has announced an ex gratia of Rs 4 lakh each for the next of kin of the deceased. Bihar Health Minister Nishant Kumar evaded queries related to the accident.

Bihar Health Minister Nishant Kumar, who is son of former Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, evaded queries related to the death in the hospital.

Delhi blaze: African couple found dead in each other's arms

NEW DELHI, PTI

They say "till death do us part", but an African couple could not be separated even by death. The couple, who were undergoing IVF treatment at a Delhi hospital, were found dead in each other's arms after smoke inhalation claimed their and 19 others' lives in the Malviya Nagar fire tragedy.

The couple, among the 12 foreigners killed in Wednesday's blaze at the Flourish Stay B&B in Hauz Rani, were discovered inside a bathroom on the ground floor, where they had apparently taken shelter as thick smoke and flames engulfed the building.

Hospital staff and local residents familiar with them said they had been receiving fertility treatment at a nearby hospital.

Wasim Raja, a duty incharge at Max Smart Hospital who was among the first responders, described the scene as one that surpassed even the Taj Mahal as a symbol of love. "We managed to open the bathroom door and saw something beyond words. I have seen many bodies during my career, but nothing compares to what I saw there," he said.

According to him, the woman, who appeared to have recently undergone a medical procedure and bore a surgical mark on her head, was seated on the toilet seat, while her husband sat on a chair beside her.

"They were holding each other. Their arms were wrapped around one another, and her head was resting on his shoulder," he said.

Raja said rescuers immediately checked for signs of life and attempted resuscitation but to no avail. "They had most likely succumbed to smoke inhalation," he said.

Even in their final moments, the couple appeared to have sought comfort in each other's presence, he added.

"When death was approaching, they chose to face it together in each other's arms. It was a scene that will stay with me forever," Raja said.

'Judicial proceedings cannot force marital ties': Top court grants divorce

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court has said that judicial proceedings cannot force a marital relationship between a husband and wife when both parties hold absolutely rigid and inflexible positions.

A bench of Justices Ahsanuddin Amanullah and R Mahadevan made the observation while allowing a man's plea for divorce, noting that the couple had been living separately since 2003 with no possibility of reconciliation. The court exercised its extraordinary powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to grant a decree of divorce on the ground of irretrievable breakdown of marriage.

The May 27 order underscored the apex court's pragmatic approach in matrimonial disputes where continuation of a dead marriage served no purpose for either party.

The husband had contended that his wife had subjected him to harassment from the early days of their marriage.

According to him, while the couple was living abroad, she made wild and scandalous allegations against him, leading to the loss of his job.

The family was later forced to shift base multiple times, including selling their Hyderabad residence and moving to Andhra Pradesh.

After his father's death, the man returned to Hyderabad and had been living with his mother at his sister's house, having no permanent residence. He submitted that he had already paid over Rs 40 lakh for the upkeep of his wife and daughter.

Additionally, Rs 68 lakh (which has now grown to around Rs 75 lakh with interest) was deposited in the Supreme Court registry as per earlier orders.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE WORKING ON ANOTHER FUN BAKING PROJECT, MAYA
THIS WINTER WEATHER IS INSPIRING ME
I'M MAKING A CAKE THAT LOOKS LIKE A BEACH
SOUNDS SUMMERY!
YEAH, I FIGURE IF I CAN'T BE BAKING ON A BEACH RIGHT NOW, I'LL JUST HAVE TO BAKE A BEACH!

Hagar The Horrible

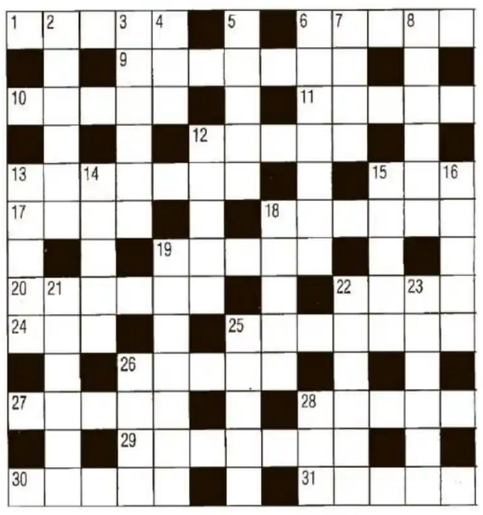
Beetle Bailey

THERE'S A BALLET IN TOWN I'D REALLY LIKE TO GO TO
SOUNDS NICE. HAVE FUN
SOMETIMES BEETLE CAN BE SO DENSE
SOMETIMES INTENTIONALLY

Peanuts

Marvin

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12432



CRYPTIC

ACROSS
1 Not much to salvage? (5)
6 Reason for an about turn, just in case (5)
9 A plant the small man has a name for (7)
10 Not occupied as a learner in getting a tune wrong (5)
11 Attack of mass torment (5)
12 No way to play piano (5)
13 Put something extra in a vehicle that's burdened (7)
15 Old soldier's great day at the West End (3)
17 The notion that one has a deal requiring no money (4)
18 Good man taking a rotter to tea, perhaps (6)
19 For a start, half of us are in debt! (5)
20 Does it cleave through the water? (6)
22 Cage containing vital personal necessities (4)
24 Period of cheese rationing (3)
25 Not dated in formal parlance (4,3)
26 Like a smart move when it's quiet during a raid (5)
27 Superior location of the fringe of Surrey (2,3)
28 It's fine for sowing small seeds (5)
29 Arrangers of rosters (7)
30 Required to seem terribly sad about a bit of a joke (5)
31 Not exactly years long (5)

DOWN
2 The author possibly ran into a swimmer (6)
3 A businesslike programme (6)
4 A favourite trumpet piece (3)
5 Tolerated a bore? (5)
6 Eject a person you see as a ticket spiv? (4,3)
7 Like a room in the canteen? (4)
8 So Bert's mixed up in something nice (6)
12 Like the pitch of a note, always? (5)
13 Because sin, initially, may be nice (5)
14 A letter from Greece – to Denmark's capital? (5)
15 OK, but it's no good being in this (5)
16 Steer erratically, in short (5)
18 Cherubic type promoted into the CID (5)
19 The multi-limbed creature walked up for a bit of food (7)
21 Planet depicted by a superior artist at sunrise? (6)
22 Have another look at the old ground (6)
23 Beer for which the German is heard to say please? (6)
25 Allows to trickle through one's fists? (5)
26 Her name came up (4)
28 Do one's best in the test (3)

ACROSS
1 Sound of pain (5)
6 Panel (5)
9 Regain (7)
10 Observable (5)
11 Routine (5)
12 Defamation (5)
13 Shine (7)
15 Possessive pronoun (3)
17 Loaned (4)
18 Bounded (6)
19 Smith's block (5)
20 Account (6)
22 Chief (4)
24 Consume (3)
25 Obviously (7)
26 Lure (5)
27 Buffalo (5)
28 Fool (5)
29 Sun-shade (7)
30 Fish basket (5)
31 Poor (5)

DOWN
2 Abuse (6)
3 Apprehend (6)
4 Mesh (3)
5 Small bird (5)
6 Plague (7)
7 Spoken (4)
8 Bat (6)
12 Inclined (5)
13 Angry look (5)
14 Unsuitable (5)
15 Rambler (5)
16 Prepared (5)
18 Female horse (5)
19 Arms depot (7)
21 Less difficult (6)
22 Treat (6)
23 Nut (6)
25 Marine creature (5)
26 Illegal drug (4)
28 Charged particle (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12431

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 4, Rebu-ff 7, Low pr-ice 8, Pr-ague 10, Scale 13, De-ed 14, Ta-ta 15, Fold 16, I-an 17, Twin 19, Call 21, White-hall 23, The-N 24, Gap-e 26, To-O 27, Tram 29, Clam 32, Fee-L 33, Skate 34, Se-cur-e 35, Disc-over 36, Nobles.
DOWN: 1, Blast 2, Sweat 3, Free 4, Re-p-el 5, Brad 6, Fru-gal 9, Red-C-ap 11, Cam 12, Lathe 13, Donegal 15, Fit 16, II-L 18, Winter 20, Aleck 21, WHO 22, Ham 23, To-led-o 25, Eat 28, Reeds 30, Larva (lava) 31, Merry 32, Fuel 33, Sock.

EASY
ACROSS: 4, Stride 7, Alphabet 8, Amount 10, Twist 13, Dram 14, Site 15, Reek 16, Ore 17, Eric 19, Eels 21, Skedaddle 23, Rest 24, Good 26, Dew 27, Anon 29, Even 32, Lion 33, Prime 34, Kimono 35, Seat belt 36, Teethe.
DOWN: 1, Halts 2, Split 3, Raft 4, Stare 5, Room 6, Donors 9, Make do 11, Wig 12, Seeks 13, Decagon 15, Rid 16, Ole 18, Retain 20, Elder 21, Sew 22, Don 23, Revive 25, Gem 28, Noose 30, Vixen 31, Newts 32, Loot 33, Pate.

◆ SU-DO-KU-6924 ◆

				6	1			2
	7						6	
9	2							
		4	5	2		9		
	8	2	1		4	6	3	
		3		7	6	1		
							9	8
	3						4	
6			3	8				

hard

SOLUTION TO 6923

5	8	1	4	9	3	7	6	2
9	2	3	8	7	6	5	4	1
7	4	6	2	5	1	8	9	3
6	7	4	1	3	9	2	8	5
1	3	8	5	4	2	6	7	9
2	5	9	6	8	7	3	1	4
3	6	7	9	1	5	4	2	8
4	9	2	3	6	8	1	5	7
8	1	5	7	2	4	9	3	6

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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							Triple Word Score	RACK 1
A1	I1	I1	L1	F4	R1	T1		
								RACK 2
O1	L1	B3	G2	E1	N1	O1		
							4th Letter Triple	RACK 3
I1	E1	B3	H4	W4	T1	O1		
								RACK 4
I1	L1	R1	T1	Y4	T1	E1	Double Word Score	

PAR SCORE 150-160
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

S1	N1	E1	E1	Z10	E1	S1	RACK 1	= 82
A1	N1	I1	M3	U1	S1		RACK 2	= 24
W4	E1	D2	L1	O1	C3	K5	RACK 3	= 84
S1	E1	D2	A1	N1	S1		RACK 4	= 21

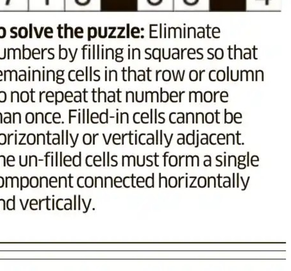
PAR SCORE 135-145 JUDD'S TOTAL 211

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NOJBA
TKIYT
DHLEUD
CURICS


Could you pick up the plates from the living room?
I'm going to check on the weather.
11/24
TO AVOID HELPING CLEAN UP, THE MALLARD DECIDED TO ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Facebook

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____ _____ (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHIVE POKER TOWARD GOVERN
Answer: Hagar played a joke at the Russian restaurant when he ordered — A RED HERRING

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HITORI-3378

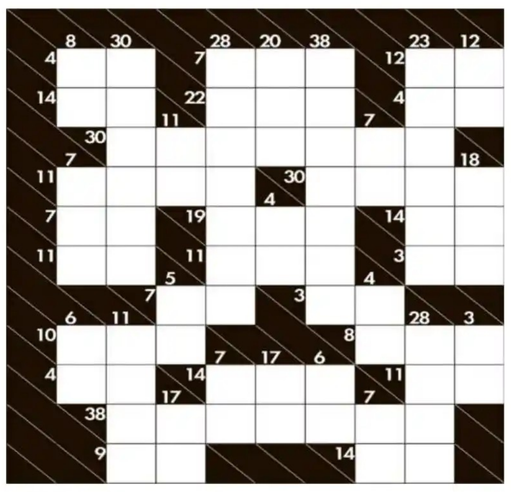
3	7	4	8	2	4	7	5
6	2	1	4	5	3	7	7
4	1	2	6	1	4	8	3
3	6	4	5	7	2	1	4
5	4	8	2	4	1	4	6
4	8	7	4	3	2	6	1
7	2	3	1	6	4	7	2
8	5	7	3	1	6	2	7

SOLUTION TO 3377

8	5	6	■	1	■	4	■
■	4	■	5	3	1	8	7
4	8	2	3	■	6	5	■
■	2	■	4	8	■	3	1
6	■	5	8	4	7	■	3
5	3	■	2	7	■	6	8
■	7	3	6	■	4	1	5
7	1	8	■	5	3	■	4

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3378



SOLUTION TO 3377

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3937

1		6	5			8		
3						9		
		5						
				8	2			
	3		1					4
6	5							
				1				
		9		4		5	7	3

SOLUTION TO 3936

6	2	8	9	3	7	1	5	4
7	5	3	2	4	1	8	6	9
4	9	1	8	5	6	3	2	7
1	8	7	4	6	5	9	3	2
2	4	5	3	8	9	6	7	1
3	6	9	7	1	2	5	4	8
5	3	2	1	9	4	7	8	6
8	1	4	6	7	3	2	9	5
9	7	6	5	2	8	4	1	3

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Crude oil crisis to persist: Govt to Parl panel

CEA warns trade deficit to widen amid West Asia turmoil

DH EXCLUSIVE

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The crude oil crisis is likely to persist, and the trade deficit is expected to widen, Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran said in a presentation to a parliamentary standing committee on Thursday.

Deposing before the Standing Committee on Finance, Nageswaran said that with 20% of global oil passing through the Strait of Hormuz, any disruption drives India's import bill up by $30-40 billion for every 10% surge in oil prices. This leads to pressure on the rupee, fuels inflation, and strains the balance of payments. The CEA also warned that disruptions in crude oil production are expected to prolong.

The West Asia crisis, the CEA said, represents both a "significant supply shock and a potential demand shock." Despite the grim outlook, indicators up to April 2026 suggest that domestic demand and overall economic activity in India have remained relatively resilient. However, supply-side price pressures are beginning to surface in wholesale inflation, while the Met's forecast of monsoon rainfall at 90% poses upside risks to the inflation outlook.

The government also noted that India's merchandise and overall trade deficit widened in FY2026, and warned that the trend, potentially with wider deficits, is likely to continue in FY2027.

It said policy measures undertaken will help contain supply-side disruptions, create safety nets and maintain macroeconomic stability. Successful trade agreements, including progress on India-US and India-EU trade, are expected to support exports and capital flows. Yet, prevailing global uncertainty continues to weigh on capital flow dynamics.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, panel chairperson Bhartruhari Mahtab said that despite the challenges, India's economy is holding firm. "While there are still certain headwinds, I would say India's economy is emerging in a stronger position," he said.

INFLATION RISKS

- Strait of Hormuz disruptions could cost India $40 bn
- CEA also flags inflation risks from monsoon forecast
- Govt cites safety nets, trade deals as buffers
- Says India's economy holding firm despite headwinds

15 Indian cities vulnerable to hot weather: Oxford study

Ahmedabad ranks 2nd, Nagpur 4th, Bengaluru 33rd on risk list

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Pune, Hyderabad and Chennai rank among the 200 cities worldwide that are most vulnerable to extreme heat caused by climate change, according to a new assessment by Oxford University researchers.

In their study, 'Moving beyond exposure: A globally comparable framework for heat risk assessment in cities', Nethmi Jayaratne Kariyawasam, Jesus Lizana and Radhika Khosla sought to move beyond an "exposure-only" approach.

"Heat risk in cities extends beyond climate extremes and is mediated by social vulnerabilities and infrastructural capacities that determine how populations experience and respond to heat," the study noted. As a result, cities with moderate heat exposure may suffer disproportionate impacts due to high levels of poverty, ageing populations, limited green cover, or unaffordable cooling infrastructure.

Climate stress

- Study says heat risk in cities extends beyond climate extremes
- Pune, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai and Delhi feature on list; Iraq's Al Basrah tops
- Most of the vulnerable cities located in India, Pakistan, Nigeria and Ghana
- Urban poverty, weak resilience compound heat impacts

The researchers developed a city heat-risk framework conceptualised as a composite of three interrelated dimensions: hazard exposure, vulnerability and lack of coping capacity.

While Al Basrah in Iraq topped the list of 205 most vulnerable cities, it was immediately followed by India's Ahmedabad. Nagpur (4), Madurai (7), Bhopal (15), Kanpur (20), Pune (23), Patna (26), Hyderabad (31), Bengaluru (33), Kolkata (35), Jaipur (36), Lucknow (41), Mumbai (45), Chennai (49) and Delhi (58) were among the 15 vulnerable cities from India.

Most of the vulnerable cities are located in India, Pakistan, Nigeria and Ghana. "More than 95% of cities above the 90th percentile risk are concentrated in South and Southeast Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, where urban populations are rapidly expanding, and resilient systems remain weak," the study said.

Lead author Kariyawasam, a DPhil researcher at the Oxford Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, said, "Our study highlights the need of multi-faceted global heat risk assessments, which reveal the diverse pathways through which urban heat risk emerges."

Lizana, Associate Professor at the University of Oxford and co-supervisor of the research, said the study provides the first globally harmonised and directly comparable assessment of urban heat risk across cities worldwide. "This provides a powerful tool for identifying where adaptation efforts are most urgently needed and, in the future, as datasets continue to improve, future iterations of this framework could support the monitoring of climate adaptation progress and urban heat resilience at the global scale," he added.

India, Venezuela vow long-term energy tie-up

NEW DELHI, PTI

India and Venezuela on Thursday vowed to set up a long-term energy partnership, building on their complementarities as Prime Minister Narendra Modi held extensive talks with Venezuelan Acting President Delcy Rodriguez focusing on ramping up economic ties, including in critical minerals, pharmaceuticals, agriculture and automobiles.

Rodriguez kick-started a five-day visit to India on Wednesday to bolster the overall bilateral cooperation against the backdrop of New Delhi seeking to diversify its crude oil procurement amid supply disruptions due to the West Asia crisis.

India's procurement of Venezuelan crude oil has picked up momentum since April, and the South American nation has already emerged as the third largest oil supplier to the country.

In the meeting, the Venezuelan leader's clear message was that her country looks at India as a "preferred energy partner" given the size of the Indian economy and the fact that it will be a stable buyer in the energy market for many years to come, Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs Rudrendra Tandon said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Venezuela's Acting President Delcy Rodriguez in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI

The PM's response was that India looks forward to building this energy relationship and it will cover both upstream and downstream activities, he said.

New Delhi also raised the issue of Venezuela owing over $500 million in dividends to ONGC Videsh. Besides, the Modi-Rodriguez discussions also focused on broadening the partnership to other areas.

"Venezuela is a resource-rich country. It's not just about critical minerals; it has also gold, diamonds and other materials... there was a discussion on how to assess the potential reserves that they have, or whether we could cooperate in that area," he said.

Tandon declined to directly answer a question on whether the political transition in Venezuela following the detention of then President Nicolas Maduro by US forces in January came up for discussion.

Kuki groups fear exclusion of displaced people in SIR

SUMIR KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI, DHNS

Kuki organisations in Manipur have raised concerns about the exclusion of displaced people in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in the conflict-torn state.

The Kuki Inpi Manipur (KIM), an influential forum of Kuki organisations, on Thursday expressed apprehensions about fairness, inclusivity and administrative responsibility in the SIR process, which it said was "unacceptable under the prevailing circumstances".

"The Kuki Inpi Manipur had expected that the government would first put in place adequate and practical arrangements to address the situation of the approximately 59,000 Kuki-Zo internally displaced persons, who... are unable to return to their homes to participate in this exercise. The exclusion, whether direct or indirect, of these IDPs from the SIR process renders the exercise incomplete and unacceptable in its present form," said a statement issued by KIM information secretary Janghaolun Haokip.

KIM demanded steps for "accessible and inclusive mechanisms" that will enable all IDPs to be duly enrolled.

The house-to-house enumeration began in Manipur, Mizoram, Sikkim and Odisha from May 30 under the third phase of the SIR exercise being conducted by EC.

Fear of exclusion

Raising similar concerns, the Kuki Organisation for Human Rights Trust (KOHUR) said apart from those who fled the Meitei-dominated areas in Manipur, many displaced Kukis are also taking shelter in Mizoram, Meghalaya and other states.

"The SIR exercise is built around house-to-house enumeration by booth-level officers, who visit each elector's residence to distribute, collect and verify enumeration forms before the cut-off date of June 29. For a displaced elector whose home has been destroyed, who cannot safely return to the area of his or her booth, and who is recorded at a relief camp in a different district — or in another state — the ordinary house-to-house mechanism does not operate as designed," KOHUR said.

Northeast CMs raise influx, development issues with Shah

GUWAHATI, DHNS: The chief ministers of the northeastern states on Thursday flagged concerns over the illegal migration from Bangladesh and Myanmar to Union Home Minister Amit Shah during the 73rd plenary session of the North Eastern Council (NEC) in Shillong.

Meghalaya's Conrad Sangma reiterated the need for the Inner Line Permit. He urged the Centre to approve the Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security (Amendment) Bill, 2020, which sought to document visitors staying beyond 48 hours.

Manipur's Yumnam Khemchand Singh flagged illegal migration from Myanmar. Nagaland CM Neiphiu Rio highlighted the state's financial constraints due to the discontinuation of revenue deficit grants.

Mizoram CM Lalduhoma said connectivity in the region should be pursued through a comprehensive "One-Grid Approach".

12 killed in Sri Lanka elderly care home fire

COLOMBO, PTI: At least 12 people were killed and seven others injured after a fire broke out at an elderly care home in Sri Lanka, police said on Thursday.

The blaze erupted at around 5.30 pm on Wednesday at the Mawpiya Sevana Elderly Care Home in Anguruwatota, about 65 km southeast of Colombo in Kalutara district.

Police said 10 residents were found dead at the premises, while two others succumbed to their injuries after being admitted to Horana Base Hospital.

The owner of the privately-run care home was arrested on Thursday as investigations into the incident continued, police said.

More than 70 elderly residents were at the facility when the fire broke out.

According to police, it was the worst fatal fire incident on the island in recent times.

Hezbollah rejects conditional Israel-Lebanon ceasefire

Qassem demands full Israeli withdrawal

BEIRUT (LEBANON), AFP

Hezbollah chief Naim Qassem on Thursday rejected a conditional truce announced by Lebanese and Israeli envoys, demanding instead a comprehensive ceasefire and full Israeli withdrawal, while threatening northern Israel with new attacks.

Qassem's remarks came after Lebanese and Israeli representatives in the United States agreed to a conditional ceasefire that Lebanon's president described as the "last chance" for a durable end to the fighting.

(L-R) Israel's Ambassador to the US Yechiel Leiter, State Department Chief of Staff Daniel Holler, US Ambassador to Lebanon Michel Issa and Lebanese Ambassador to the US Nada Hamadeh in Washington DC on Wednesday. AFP

Lebanon was drawn into the wider West Asia war when Hezbollah attacked Israel following the February 28 killing of Iran's supreme leader.

Hezbollah has rejected the Israel-Lebanon talks, and a previous ceasefire announced on April 17 has been breached daily, with Israeli troops deployed deep inside Lebanese territory and the Iran-backed group continuing to attack Israel. "The ceasefire must be comprehensive... without the Israeli enemy having the freedom to kill," Qassem said on Thursday, urging the government to halt "the farce and humiliation called direct talks" with Israel.

He also vowed that "as long as our villages are unsafe — being bombed, destroyed and our people killed — the settlements (in northern Israel) are unsafe".

The speech followed new Israeli strikes on Lebanon and fresh threats against Beirut by Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz, who said the army would "at this stage, continue its fire and ground operations... without the return of the population, while continuing to dismantle terrorist infrastructure".

Iran leader claims 'decisive blow' to US, Israel

TEHRAN, AFP: Iran's supreme leader said on Thursday that the United States and Israel had been dealt a "decisive blow" in the West Asia war, after the government reported "no tangible progress" in negotiations aimed at ending the conflict.

Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei's message, read out by a prayer leader at a ceremony marking the anniversary of the death of the Islamic republic's founder, came after the US House of Representatives passed a resolution seeking to halt American military action in Iran.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

North Korea unveils new facility to produce nuclear bomb fuel

North Korea on Thursday unveiled a new facility to produce nuclear bomb fuel, with leader Kim Jong Un announcing plans to bolster the country's nuclear forces "at an exponential rate", AP/PTI reports from Seoul.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff assessed the site as a uranium enrichment plant and said it was closely coordinating with the United States to monitor North Korean nuclear activities. The South's military did not immediately release further details. The North's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said the facility used "more sophisticated technology" but did not provide further details. It remains unclear where the plant is located or when it began operations. State media photographs showed what appeared to be a large hall housing centrifuges, which are used to enrich weapons-grade uranium. The disclosure of the new facility is in line with Kim's repeated vows to expand his nuclear weapons programme to counter what he describes as escalating US-led military threats.

Missing Sherpa guide rescued

A Sherpa guide was found alive on Mount Everest a week after he went missing, and a helicopter was taking him to a hospital on Thursday, AP/PTI reports from Kathmandu.

Dawa Sherpa was last seen around May 29 while descending the mountain, but he did not make it to base camp even though his client did. The pair were among the last climbers on the mountain as the climbing season came to an end and the route was dismantled. Dawa was located by a cleaning crew on Thursday morning as he was crawling down the snowy slopes near the Khumbu Icefall, just above base camp, said Pemba Sherpa of 8K Expeditions.

Fire at Tata Steel's UK plant

Emergency fire crews on Thursday continued to battle a blaze at Tata Steel UK's steelworks in Port Talbot, south Wales, which a workers' union said had caused "substantial damage", PTI reports from London.

The Mid and West Wales Fire Service deployed several firefighting crews to the site on Wednesday evening and later confirmed that all on-site workers had been accounted for and safely evacuated. The company said emergency services remained on site and were working to completely extinguish the blaze. "The incident is not related to the safe and successful demolition of the empty, redundant Gas Holder earlier yesterday (Wednesday) evening," a Tata Steel UK said. "We would like to thank local site teams and the emergency services," it added.

Chinese spies pose as recruiters to glean state secrets

LONDON, AFP: Chinese spies are posing as job recruiters to trick staff in Western governments into disclosing sensitive information, the Five Eyes alliance of security agencies has warned.

China's military intelligence services advertise fake jobs, such as foreign policy or defence analyst roles, on platforms including LinkedIn, the spy agencies of Britain, the US, Australia, Canada and New Zealand said in a joint statement late on Wednesday. The agents pose as HR consultants or employees of "legitimate-looking" private consultancies or think tanks that claim to be based outside China.

Western pressure on India-Russia ties is futile, says Putin

Russian President calls India reliable partner

ST PETERSBURG, PTI

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday hailed Moscow's strategic partnership with New Delhi and asserted that Western attempts to force India to scale back its cooperation with Russia are futile and damaging to global stability.

In an interaction with heads of leading global news agencies, including PTI, Putin lauded India's economic growth and its independent foreign policy, and said Russia is determined to expand its economic engagement with the country.

"India is among the world's major economies and is currently demonstrating an impressive rate of economic growth," Putin remarked, expressing confidence that bilateral trade between the two nations is on track to hit the $100 billion milestone in the coming years. "India is one of the leading economies of the world that has shown the highest rate of economic growth. This is not something that comes out of the blue. This is the result of the hard work that the Government of India has been doing under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Putin said.

The Russian president emphasised that New Delhi will continue to prioritise its own national interests, adding that India's diplomatic engagement with the US does not hinder or undermine its time-tested relationship with Russia. "We are glad that India is developing its relations with all countries it considers important for its national interests," Putin said.

India's plan to divert Chenab water violates treaty: Pak

ISLAMABAD, PTI

Pakistan on Thursday claimed that India's reported plan to build a river-linking project to divert water from the Chenab to the Beas would be a "grave violation" of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) and other international laws.

Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Andrabi was responding to questions about media reports that said India was planning to tunnel water from the Chenab to the Beas, both part of the Indus basin.

India placed the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance last year. It was one of the punitive measures taken against Pakistan a day after the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people. The IWT, brokered by the World Bank, governs the distribution and use of the Indus River and its tributaries.

"Yes, we have seen this report as well as the public tender document issued by the government of India. India has invited bids for the Chenab-Beas Link Tunnel project with the intention of transferring 1.9 million acre-feet of water annually from the Chenab into the Beas system.

"Such an inter-basin diversion of water from the Chenab into the Beas system constitutes a grave violation not just of the IWT but also of the law of treaties, particularly the Vienna Convention," he said.

Biz Bytes

AI, Riyadh Air pact to boost connectivity

MUMBAI, DHNS: Air India and Saudi Arabia's Riyadh Air have signed an MoU to establish a strategic partnership aimed at enhancing connectivity between India, Saudi Arabia and key international destinations.

The agreement reflects the growing importance of the India-Gulf aviation corridor, one of the fastest-growing travel markets globally, driven by business, tourism, labour mobility and diaspora traffic.

Subject to approvals, the two airlines plan to introduce interline and codeshare arrangements that will allow passengers to travel across their networks through a single booking, with seamless connections via Delhi, Mumbai and Riyadh.

Ola Electric raises Rs 780 cr via QIP

NEW DELHI, PTI: Ola Electric Mobility has raised Rs 780 crore through a QIP that was oversubscribed 56%, driven by strong participation from domestic and global institutional investors, stock exchange data showed on Thursday. The fundraise strengthens the company's balance-sheet and is expected to support expansion across electric mobility, battery technology development, manufacturing scale-up and product innovation.

TVS SCS inks JV with Italy's ALA Group

CHENNAI, DHNS: TVS Supply Chain Solutions on Thursday entered into a partnership with Italy's ALA Group to build an aerospace and defence supply-chain platform in India, with an initial investment of 2 million euros. Chennai-based TVS SCS will hold 51% stake in the joint venture, while the remaining will be held by ALA.

R Dinesh, Executive Chairman, TVS SCS, says the new joint venture is targeting revenues of about Rs 2,000 crore in the next 3-5 years as the defence and aerospace supply-chain sector is worth about $12 billion in India.

FADING GLOW: Rajesh Mehta says revenues correctly reported; investor sentiment hit

'Sebi's order interim in nature, no adverse conclusion reached'

TEJASWINI S
BENGALURU, DHNS

Indian gold jewellery manufacturer and exporter Rajesh Exports Ltd (REL) on Thursday rejected allegations of revenue misstatement and financial irregularities, saying its reported revenues were accurate and that concerns raised by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) were due to a "communication gap".

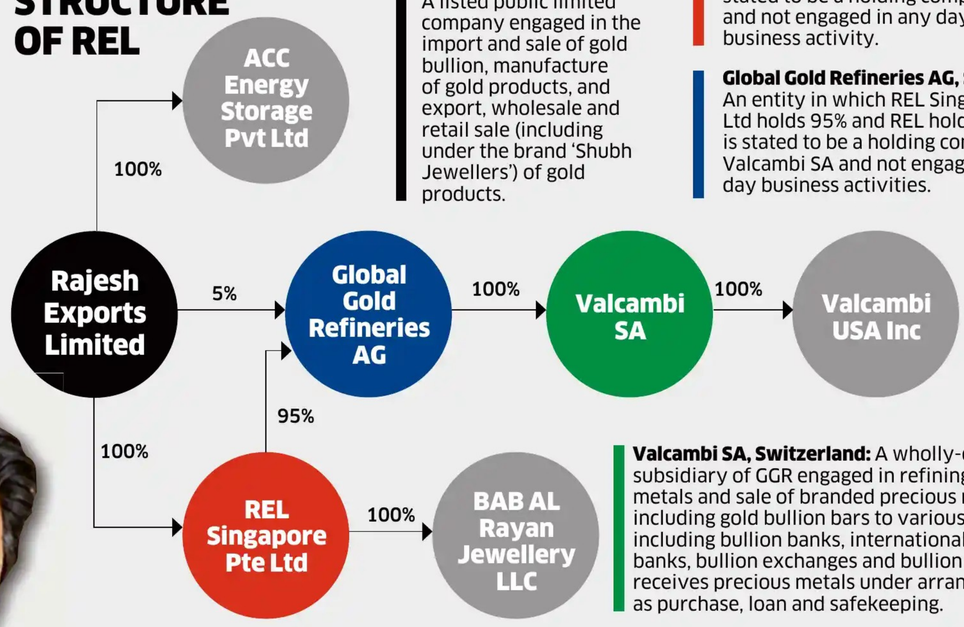
"There is absolutely nothing wrong with the revenue declared by the company," REL Founder-Chairman Rajesh Mehta told *DH*. He said the company had regularly presented audited financial statements and maintained that its disclosures were accurate.

Mehta said the issue related to Sebi's treatment of revenues generated by Valcambi, the group's Swiss gold refinery. In a clarification filed with the stock exchanges, Rajesh Exports said Sebi's order was interim in nature and that no adverse conclusion had been reached. The company said it would provide further clarifications to the regulator.

Who is Rajesh Mehta?

Rajesh Mehta **(born in Bengaluru on June 20, 1964)** was introduced to the precious metals trade at a young age after leaving college. He began his career by trading silver and **founded REL in a garage in 1989,** with initial exports to West Asia, Europe, and the US. Rajesh Exports buys raw gold, refines it into pure gold, manufactures jewellery, and sells gold products. **He expanded the company from local jewellery manufacturing to global refining and retail with his own brand, Shubh Jewellers**. In 2015, he acquired Swiss refining giant Valcambi, considered one of the world's largest gold-refining facilities. Under his leadership, **Rajesh Exports grew into a Fortune Global 500 company.**

COPORATE STRUCTURE OF REL



Rajesh Exports Limited, India: A listed public limited company engaged in the import and sale of gold bullion, manufacture of gold products, and export, wholesale and retail sale (including under the brand 'Shubh Jewellers') of gold products.

REL Singapore Pte Ltd, Singapore: A wholly-owned subsidiary of REL, stated to be a holding company and not engaged in any day-to-day business activity.

Global Gold Refineries AG, Switzerland: An entity in which REL Singapore Pte Ltd holds 95% and REL holds 5%. It is stated to be a holding company of Valcambi SA and not engaged in day-to-day business activities.

Valcambi SA, Switzerland: A wholly-owned subsidiary of GGR engaged in refining precious metals and sale of branded precious metal bars, including gold bullion bars to various entities, including bullion banks, international banks, central banks, bullion exchanges and bullion dealers; receives precious metals under arrangements such as purchase, loan and safekeeping.

Financal Year-wise impact of misrepresentation (In Rs crore)

Particulars	FY 2020-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	Total
Consolidated Revenue of REL (A)	2,58,306	2,43,128	3,39,690	2,80,676	4,23,099	15,44,899
Standalone Revenue of REL (B)	2,060	6,237	5,762	5,401	7,027	26,486
Revenue of Subsidiaries/ Step-down subsidiaries (C=A-B)	2,56,245	2,36,891	3,33,928	2,75,276	4,16,072	15,18,413

Sebi's allegations

The response came a day after Sebi barred Mehta, promoter and executive chairman of the Bengaluru-based jewellery exporter, from accessing the securities market until further orders.

In its 109-page interim order, Sebi alleged that company funds were routed through personal accounts and promoter-linked entities without adequate disclosures. The regulator said its investigation, covering April 2020 to March 2024, found a pattern of fund diversion, misuse of corporate funds and efforts to obscure fund trails.

Sebi also alleged that Rajesh Exports misrepresented revenues worth about Rs 15.15 lakh crore between FY21 and FY25, and recorded non-genuine sales and purchase transactions worth over Rs 11,487 crore through stockbroker Affluence Shares and Stocks between FY22 and FY24.

Reflecting investor concerns, Rajesh Exports shares fell 4.99% to close at Rs 104.65 on Thursday, hitting the lower circuit limit.

Prem Kumar, a market trader, said the development was negative for the company in the near term and had raised governance concerns among investors.

Biju Gangadharan, Chief Investment Officer at Vinveta LLP, said investors would closely watch the company's clarifications and the progress of the regulatory probe. Sebi has also ordered the appointment of a new forensic auditor to complete the audit of the company's books.

Cong questions LIC stake in REL amid Sebi probe

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Flagging concerns over LIC owning around 10.8% stake in Rajesh Exports (REL), which is under the Sebi scanner, the Congress on Thursday said it raises questions on how the country's largest insurance company acquired a "substantial stake" in the company, claiming that it was driven by instructions from the "ruling ecosystem".

Jairam Ramesh

Party General Secretary (Communication) Jairam Ramesh referred to a Sebi interim report on Wednesday, alleging a "gigantic scam" involving the high-flying company, which is in the gold refining and jewellery business, and said banks too have, besides LIC, "considerable exposure" to this "clearly politically-influential company".

"Sebi says there has been a massive misrepresentation of revenues spanning a five-year period 2020/21-2024/25 that could amount to a staggering Rs 15 lakh crore. This is a mind-boggling number. Investigations are continuing and a final report is awaited," he said.

"What is particularly disturbing is that LIC owns around 10.8% of Rajesh Exports. Banks too have considerable exposure to this clearly politically-influential company. How could LIC have missed such a huge fraud taking place in a company in which it has a substantial stake? This raises the question of whether LIC's acquisition of such a substantial stake was driven by instructions from the ruling ecosystem," he said.

Govt sets up 6 sector-specific groups to boost manufacturing

NEW DELHI, PTI: The government has constituted six sector-specific working groups to identify as many as 100 products for promoting their domestic manufacturing and reducing import dependence, an official said.

"The aim is to promote indigenisation of those products," the official said.

The groups will discuss the list of items for the purpose, and the final list prepared by them will be submitted to the cabinet secretariat within three weeks.

The six groups are on pharmaceuticals, biotech and medical devices; chemicals and petrochemicals, textiles and footwear; capital goods, automotive and electric vehicles, advanced capital goods; energy; construction equipment and infrastructure; and defence and aerospace (only for items with civilian applicability) and electronics.

The members of these groups are from different ministries and departments, including commerce, DPIIT, NITI Aayog, pharmaceuticals, economic affairs, science and technology, chemicals, textiles, heavy industry, ports and shipping, electronics and IT, road transport, new and renewable energy, and oil.

These groups will be chaired by the secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). These groups will identify products that are either not manufactured in India or are produced in inadequate quantities to meet the country's requirements.

L&T pledges to invest Rs 18,600 cr in Tamil Nadu

TVK govt's first major MoU since taking office

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

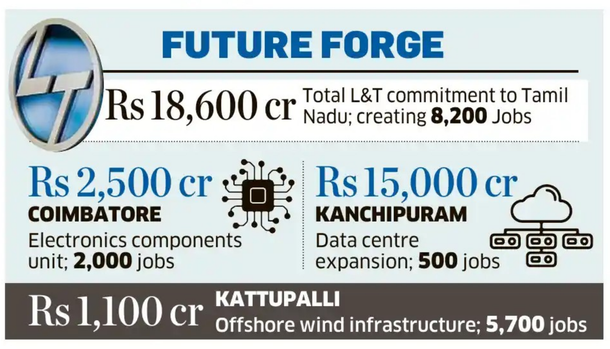
In the first big-ticket investment into Tamil Nadu after the TVK government assumed office last month, Indian multinational conglomerate Larsen and Toubro (L&T) on Thursday pledged to invest Rs 18,600 crore in three projects in the state, generating 8,200 jobs.

Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay oversaw the signing of the first MoU of his government, which took office on May 10. The agreement was signed between Guidance Tamil Nadu Executive Director P Alarmelmangai and KG Sathyanarayanan, Head, Strategic Initiatives, L&T.

The biggest investment will be in Kanchipuram district, where L&T will invest Rs 15,000 crore to expand its data centre, generating high-value jobs for 500 people.

The company will also invest Rs 2,500 crore to set up an electronics components manufacturing unit in Coimbatore, providing jobs for 2,000 people, and Rs 1,100 crore for expanding its offshore wind infrastructure at Kattupalli in Tiruvallur district, providing employment to 5,700 people.

Vijay assured full cooperation to L&T, while appreciating the company's continued investments and strong industrial presence in Tamil Nadu. He also spoke about his government's goal of transforming the state into a $1.5-trillion economy by 2036 and said that the conglomerate's investments in multiple sectors will help Tamil Nadu's growth.


FUTURE FORGE
Rs 18,600 cr Total L&T commitment to Tamil Nadu; creating 8,200 Jobs
Rs 2,500 cr COIMBATORE Electronics components unit; 2,000 jobs
Rs 15,000 cr KANCHIPURAM Data centre expansion; 500 jobs
Rs 1,100 cr KATTUPALLI Offshore wind infrastructure; 5,700 jobs

"Together, these projects strengthen Tamil Nadu's leadership across advanced manufacturing, digital infrastructure, and strategic infrastructure development, while creating new opportunities for growth, innovation, and employment," a government statement said.

The fresh investment in the electronics components manufacturing sector comes at a time when the state is expected to hit a historic high of $18 billion in the 2025-2026 fiscal, which will be a 22.8% growth from the $14.65 billion recorded by Tamil Nadu in 2024-25.

The new unit in Coimbatore is a big win for the state, which has been trying to make the city, Chennai, and Hosur hubs for electronics component manufacturing. The state has been ranking no.1 in electronics exports in the country for the past few years, especially after Apple suppliers Foxconn, home-grown Tata Electronics Private Limited (TEPL), and Cisco made Tamil Nadu their home.

While TEPL already produces enclosures for smartphones of various brands at its Hosur facility, Foxconn's arm Yuzhan Technology (India) Pvt Ltd, is building a massive unit at the ESR Industrial Park in Oragadam near Sriperumbudur to build smartphone components like display modules by investing Rs 13,180 crores.

US-based Gorilla glass-maker Corning International Corporation has set up its first India unit near Chennai to manufacture front-cover glasses for electronic devices.

Key components being made in India will boost the electronics ecosystem in Tamil Nadu — also home to other Apple suppliers like Salcomp and Jabil — which is moving towards building a manufacturing unit in Tiruchirapalli respectively.

NATIONAL URBAN HEALTH MISSION
BANGALORE CITY HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY
GREATER BENGALURU AUTHORITY
Office of Chief Health Officer (PH), Annex Building-2, GBA Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: CPMO/NUHM/PR/P-09/2026-27 Date: 04-06-2026

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from eligible Candidates for **Recruitment of Vacant Posts of Doctors and Pharmacists under NUHM, CHILD HEALTH & NTEP Programmes of the National Health Mission for a period upto 31-03-2027** through Walk-in Process purely on contractual basis.

Sl. No.	PROGRAMME NAME	NAME OF THE POST	NO OF POSTS	EDUCATION QUALIFICATION	ROSTER RPC	ROSTER HK	SALARY/ MONTH	Walk in Place, Date & Time
1	NUHM	MEDICAL OFFICER	14	MBBS with KMC Registration, Age Limit: 45 years	RPC-13 (GM-6, oth-1, F-2, R-2, PH-1), SC-A-1-oth, SC-B-1-oth, ST-1-oth, CAT1-1-oth, 2A-2 (oth-1, F-1), 2B-1-oth)	HK-1 (SC-A -1-oth)	60,000/-	PLACE: Dr. Rajkumar Glass House, Opposite to Annex-3 Building, GBA Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002. DATE: 11-06-2026 TIME: 10.00 AM to 4.00 PM
2		PHARMACIST	18	B-Pharma/ D-Pharma and Registered in State Pharmacy Council., Age Limit: 40 years	RPC-16 (GM-8, oth-2, F-3, R-2, PH-1), SC-A-1-oth, SC-B-1-oth, SC-C-1-oth, ST-1-oth, CAT1-1-oth, 2A-2 (oth-1, F-1), 2B-oth-1)	HK-2 (SC-A -1-oth), GM-1-oth)	20,594/-	
3	NTEP	MEDICAL OFFICER	03	MBBS with KMC Registration, Age Limit: 45 years	RPC-3 (GM-1, oth, SC-A-1-oth, ST-1-oth)	-	60,000/-	
4	CHILD HEALTH	MEDICAL OFFICER	06	MBBS with KMC Registration, Age Limit: 45 years	RPC-6 (GM-3 (oth-1, F-1, R-1), SC-A-1-oth, ST-1-oth, CAT1-1 oth, 2A-1 oth)	-	60,000/-	

Candidates must have knowledge of Kannada language. The eligible candidates are requested to download the application and 02 Sets of Checklist from GBA Website and fill the application with checklist and attend the Walk-in Process on the above mentioned date and place along with relevant original and Xerox documents of educational qualification with two photos. GBA has the right to increase and decrease the number of posts. For more details contact GBA Website. **(www.bbmp.gov.in)**

NOTE: The said Notification is subject to NHM guidelines.

Sd/- Chief Health Officer (PH)
Greater Bengaluru Authority

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ZILLA PANCHAYAT BELAGAVI
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PANCHAYAT RAJ ENGINEERING DIVISION, CHIKODI
Email :preckdee@gmail.com Office Phone No: 08338-272131,

No.PRE/CKD/Db/kppp/2026-27/1085 Date: 27-05-2026

Kppp- ,SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, State, Item Rate (Technical bids and Financial bids through E-Mode), E-Bids are invited for the following works through standard tender document KW-1, KW-2, KW-3, KW-4 (Standard Tender Document) from the eligible Contractors, registered in P.R.E. Department, & with kppp registration Bangalore, on "turn-key", basis only.

1] Last date of request for issue of blank E-bid document through e-Procurment Date: Other works 27-05-2026 To 15-06-2026, 2] Bid Closing & submission Date: Other works12-06-2026 AT 04:00 PM 3] Tender Opening Date: Other works 15-06-2026 AT 11:00 AM, 4] Pre Bid Meeting Date: [KW-3 & 4 Works Only] 17-06-2026 AT 05:00 PM, 5] Techanical Bid Opening Date: [KW-3 & 4 Works Only] 15-06-2026 AT 11:00 AM, 6] Financial Bid Opening Date: [KW-3 & 4 Works Only] 19-06-2026 AT 11:00 AM.

General Works Indent No's: 26396, 26397, 26376, 26375, 26373, 26395, 26222, 26204, 26198, 26202, 26558, 26265, 23623, 26307, 26308, 26306, SC Works Indent No's: 23692, ST Works Indent No's: -, Category 1 Works Indent No's: 26199, , Category 2A Works Indent No's: –

For further details, the agencies may contact the office of the undersigned, during office hours, or may visit web site: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/

Sd/-Executive Engineer
P.R.E. Division, Chikodi.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-369/KSMCA/2026-27

Maruti Suzuki unveils India's first flex-fuel car

BENGALURU, DHNS

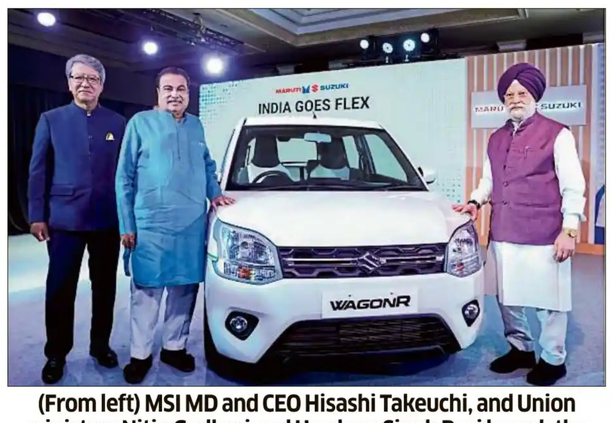
Maruti Suzuki India Limited (MSI) on Thursday launched India's first flex-fuel car.

The vehicle was launched on the eve of World Environment Day, in the presence of Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari and Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri.

A flex-fuel vehicle can run on any blend of ethanol and petrol ranging from E20 to E100. Maruti has introduced the technology in the Wagon R — a model that has previously pioneered alternate fuel options in India, including CNG and LPG.

The company said the launch aligns with national goals of enhancing energy security, reducing oil imports and promoting sustainability. It added that wider adoption of flex-fuel vehicles could also support farmer incomes by creating demand for ethanol.

Speaking at the launch, Gadkari said India's large crude oil imports make biofuels such as ethanol an important pathway towards energy independence and rural economic growth. "Flex-fuel vehicles can create a strong and sustainable demand for ethanol, benefiting our farmers, industry, and the environment together. I appreciate Maruti Suzuki for taking this leadership step by introducing India's first flex-fuel car and supporting the government's vision of clean and self-reliant mobility," he said.



(From left) MSI MD and CEO Hisashi Takeuchi, and Union ministers Nitin Gadkari and Hardeep Singh Puri launch the company's first flex-fuel car in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI

Gadkari expressed confidence that the move would encourage other automobile manufacturers to introduce flex-fuel models and accelerate the development of ethanol distribution infrastructure across the country.

"Flex-fuel vehicles are a win-win for the nation — reducing crude oil import dependence, saving valuable foreign exchange, lowering emissions, and creating new opportunities for rural prosperity," Puri mentioned.

Hisashi Takeuchi, MD and CEO of MSI, said the company remains committed to offering multiple fuel and technology options, including battery electric vehicles, hybrids, CNG/CBG and ethanol flex-fuel vehicles.

WFI bars junior wrestlers over fake birth certificates

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) on Thursday suspended five wrestlers, including U20 Asian Championship trials winner Deepanshu, for four years after their birth certificates were found to be fake during a verification exercise in its crackdown on age fraud in the sport.

Deepanshu, who had won the men's freestyle 65kg event on Wednesday, has been replaced by Pawan Balaji Dhayagude in the squad for the championship, starting June 27 in Pattaya, Thailand.

The other suspended wrestlers are Tanuj Antil, Baljot Singh and Nikhil Dalal and Saket Drall, who reached the final of the 86kg trials. He was removed from the final and was replaced by Sahil Dalal, who eventually grabbed the place in the Indian team.

In an order issued by WFI president Sanjay Kumar Singh, the federation said it had taken a "very serious view" of wrestlers submitting forged birth certificates to gain eligibility for participation in National Wrestling Championships.

WFI said discrepancies in birth certificates had surfaced in several cases in recent months, leading to suspensions and widespread reporting in print, electronic and social media.

"Despite the action already taken, some wrestlers allegedly continued attempting to compete in national events by submitting alternative or fabricated documents," WFI said in its notice.

Referee in trouble

In a separate development, the WFI issued a show-cause notice to referee Jaibir, a member of the WFI Referee Commission, alleging conflict of interest and misconduct during the Asian Games selection trials in Lucknow on May 31.

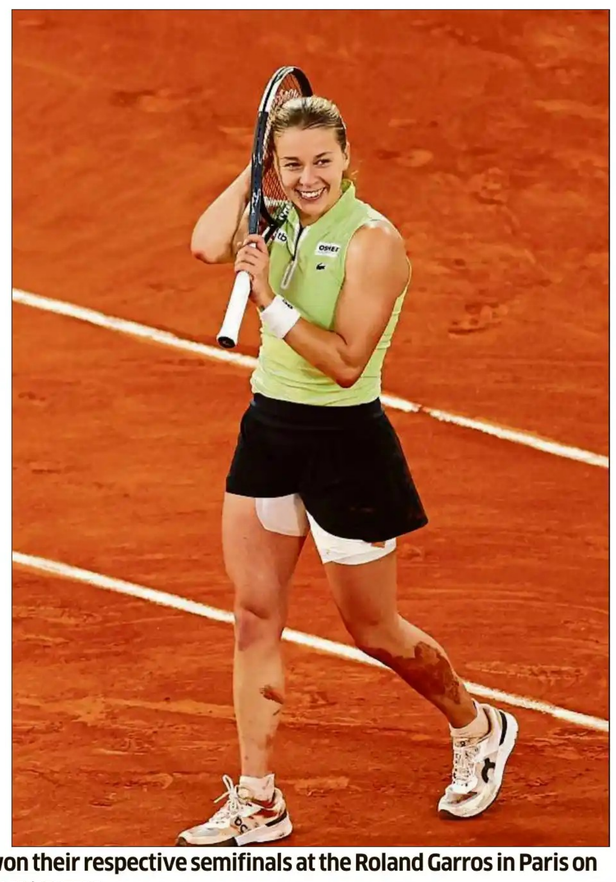
According to the notice, Jaibir had been appointed as a referee for the trials and was officiating on the mat where Greco-Roman bouts were conducted. His son, Ronak Dahiya, participated in the 130kg Greco-Roman category. The federation alleged that during the final bout of the 130kg event, Jabir removed his referee kit and assumed the role of coach for his son.

TENNIS FRENCH OPEN

Chwalinska makes history

Pole becomes first qualifier to reach final at Roland Garros in Open era

PARIS, AFP



Russia's Mirra Andreeva (left) and Poland's Maja Chwalinska won their respective semifinals at the Roland Garros in Paris on Thursday. AFP/REUTERS

Mirra Andreeva raced into her first Grand Slam final as she beat an erratic Marta Kostyuk 6-1, 6-3 at the French Open on Thursday.

Meanwhile Polish world No. 114 Maja Chwalinska made history as she beat Diana Shnaider in straight sets 7-6 (4), 6-4 to become the first qualifier to go all the way to the Roland Garros final in the professional era.

Chwalinska will meet Russian eighth seed Mirra Andreeva in Saturday's title-decider.

In the first semifinal, 19-year-old Russian Andreeva took one hour and 16 minutes to overcome her Ukrainian opponent.

Kostyuk, the 15th seed, had won her previous two meetings with Andreeva, both this year. The most recent was on clay in the final in Madrid as Kostyuk put together a 17-match unbeaten run on the red dirt coming into the Roland Garros last four.

Yet, on Thursday, she quickly started to unravel against her teenage opponent. Kostyuk dropped serve in the very first game after two double faults and a pair of unforced errors.

She led 0-40 in Andreeva's first service game but a combination of Kostyuk errors on high-risk strokes and the Russian's steadier defence allowed Andreeva to recover to consolidate the break.

The pattern persisted as Andreeva grabbed the initiative to win through the 34-minute set.

Andreeva pulled 4-1 ahead in the second set. Kostyuk, who finished with 34 unforced errors, finally forced a break of her own but promptly dropped serve to love and Andreeva duly served out the win.

There was no post-match handshake between them and Kostyuk walked off quickly, turning only to wave and blow kisses to the crowd on Court Philippe-Chatrier, which saw some fans with Ukrainian flags.

Chwalinska shines

Chwalinska's 7-6 (4), 6-4 victory over Russian 25th seed Shnaider made the 24-year-old only the second woman to come through qualifying and reach a Grand Slam final in any major since the Open era began, after Emma Raducanu's title run at the US Open in 2021.

In an intriguing clash of styles between the variety of Chwalinska's game and the power-hitting of Shnaider, the first went into the tie-breaker.

A wild forehand by Chwalinska gave Shnaider daylight at 3-1 in the tie-break but the patient Pole won six of the next seven points to claim the opener.

With the sun peeking through the sides of the roof on centre court, the pair exchanged breaks of serve to start the second set.

Shnaider called for a medical time-out to receive a back massage when leading 4-3.

Chwalinska began drawing the rallies out in response and promptly broke Shnaider in the Russian's next service game to move to the edge of victory.

She sealed her spot in the final with a forehand winner.

"I will give my all, it's a Grand Slam final," Chwalinska said.

Sara-Andrea lift title

Sara Errani and Andrea Vavassori retained their French Open mixed doubles title on Thursday, staging a comeback to defeat American Evan King and Canadian Gabriela Dabrowski 4-6 6-3 (10-4), reports Reuters.

Result (Prefix denotes seeding): Women: Semifinal: 8-Mirra Andreeva (Rus) bt 15-Marta Kostyuk (Ukr) 6-1, 6-3; Maja Chwalinska bt 25-Diana Shnaider 7-6 (4), 6-4.

Sindhu fails to pass Young test again

Hariharan-Arjun reach maiden Super 1000 quarterfinals

JAKARTA, PTI

An Se-young

Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu suffered a second successive defeat to world No. 1 An Se Young in as many weeks to bow out of the Indonesia Open here on Thursday.

Sindhu, who had also lost to the South Korean in the quarterfinals of last week's Singapore Open, showed spark but only in patches to go down 17-21, 14-21 in the round of 16 clash.

The defeat extended Sindhu's losing streak against the reigning Olympic champion to 10 matches. The Indian is yet to register a win over An.

Meanwhile, the men's doubles pair of Hariharan Amsakarunan and MR Arjun upset higher ranked Malaysian duo of Aaron Tai and Kang Khai Xing from a game down to reach their first ever BWF World Tour Super 1000 quarterfinals. Hariharan and Arjun won their round of 16 match 16-21, 21-15, 21-19.

The Malaysian duo had defeated India's Satwik-Chirag pair at the All England 2026 opening round.

The Indians lost the opening game but bounced back in the second to force a decider. Though trailing the final game until 16-17, they regrouped eventually sealing the victory at 48 minutes.

They next face seventh seeds Goh Sze Fei and Nur Izzuddin of Malaysia.

Hariharan and Arjun, currently ranked 30th in the world, had defeated former World No. 6 and World Championship medalilsts Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi of Malaysia at the India Open. They were also part of the bronze medal winning Thomas Cup team this year.

In men's singles, Ayush Shetty lost to Lee Cheuk Yiu of Hong Kong 21-16, 13-21, 14-21 in the round of 16.

The contest began on an even footing, with the scores locked at 10-10 midway through the opening game as Sindhu showcased glimpses of her best form and managed to put the Korean under pressure at times.

She briefly edged ahead at 15-14 with some aggressive strokeplay, but An responded in trademark fashion, reeling off a series of points to take a 19-16 lead.

The Korean then won two consecutive points, including a gruelling 41-shot rally, to seal the opening game.

An carried that momentum into the second game, moving smoothly around the court and racing to a 13-6 lead.

Zverev wary of dangerous Mensik

Germany's Alexander Zverev has never won a Grand Slam despite three final appearances. REUTERS

PARIS, REUTERS

LIVE 6:00 PM

Alexander Zverev will carry mounting expectations into Friday's French Open semifinal against dangerous Czech Jakub Mensik, as the second seed aims to close in on an elusive Grand Slam title after shock exits opened up the draw for him.

What began with defending champion Carlos Alcaraz's injury withdrawal has turned into a tournament of surprises with world number one Jannik Sinner and 24-time Grand Slam winner Novak Djokovic losing to leave Zverev as the most established title contender.

Zverev, the 2020 Tokyo Olympic gold medallist and twice ATP Finals champion, has never won a Grand Slam trophy despite final appearances at the US Open, French Open and Australian Open, with Paris now offering the German his clearest opportunity.

"I don't particularly care," the 29-year-old Zverev told reporters about his elevation as the overwhelming favourite for the Musketeers' Cup.

"I focus on next match, and I focus on the opponent as they cross the net, and that's the only thing that I can control.

"If I win those matches, then that's great."

Zverev has been in this territory before and knows that the margins only tighten from here, with composure and trust in his game likely to be decisive under intense pressure from himself. "For me it's quite simple, it's me playing well," added Zverev, who dismissed Rafael Jodar in the quarterfinals.

"I've said it before, I think I really have to trust my game, and I have to trust my tennis and trust myself. If I play well, then I think that's 99 per cent of the work."

Standing between Zverev and a fourth major final is 26th-seeded Czech Mensik, who is also chasing a maiden Grand Slam title at a very different stage of his career, with two ATP titles to his opponent's 24.

Jaismine climbs to world No. 1; Priya, Vishvanath enter top 3

NEW DELHI, PTI: Reigning world champion Jaismine Lamboria climbed to the top of the women's 57kg rankings, while Asian championships gold medallists Priya Ghanghas (60kg) and Vishvanath Suresh (50kg) broke into the top three of their respective categories in the latest World Boxing rankings.

Indian boxers featured in the top 10 across nine of the 10 women's weight categories and eight of the 10 men's divisions.

In the women's section, Minakshi retained her world No. 1 ranking in the 48kg category, while Preeti Pawar jumped five places to third in the 54kg weight class.

Jaismine, who won the silver at the Asian Championships earlier this year, moved up a spot to be the top ranked boxer in her weight class.

World Cup medallists Arundhati Choudhary (70kg), Pooja Rani (80kg) and Nupur (+80kg) were all ranked second in their respective divisions.

Two-time world champion Nikhat Zareen (51kg), slipped one place to fourth.

Purushotham (left) and Arya S breached the state record during the Karnataka State Senior athletics meet in Bengaluru on Thursday. DH PHOTO/ B K JANARDHAN

Arya, Purusotham's duel breaks record

ADITYA K HALDER
BENGALURU, DHNS

Arya S and Purushotham broke the state's long jump record with attempts of 7.98 and 7.97 metres respectively in a competitive men's long jump final of the Karnataka State Senior Athletics Meet here on Thursday.

The 24-year-old duo surpassed the previous record of 7.91 held by Samsheer SE (2019) while confirming their spot for the month's end Inter-State Athletics Championships, the final trials for the Asian Games.

With the season's leading Indian jumper Lokesh Sathyanathan missing out due to an injury, Arya and Purushotham kept setting the bar high with every jump as the latter took the early lead with jumps of 7.66 and 7.67.

Hoskote's Arya, who remained in the 7.60s early on, eventually took the lead and 7.68 and 7.71 by the fourth attempt. The fierce battle was only setting the mood for the penultimate round where it all went down to the wire.

A self-trained Purusotham, who watches YouTube videos to hone his skills, thought he did enough to reset the lead at 7.97. His exult in jubilation -- celebrating his new personal best (not official) -- was short-lived as his perennial domestic rival took the lead right after by a mere centimetre.

Results: Winners only: Men: 100m: Aryan Manoj 10.51s. **110m hurdles:** Ratangouda Patil 15.26. **400m:** Theerthesh P Shetty 47.09. **800m:** Bopanna KT 1:48.33. **1500m:** Kalyan Jr 3:50.29. **3000m steeplechase:** Balu Y Hegri 9:30.07. **5000m:** Onkar R Panhalkar 14:34.55. **Shot put:** Prajwal M Shetty 17.09m. **Discus throw:** Smit B Javiya 48.90. **Hammer throw:** Dheeraj R Poojary 56.69. **High jump:** Jesse Sandesh 2.15. **Long jump:** Arya S 7.98, (MR: Old: 7.91, Samsheer SE, 2019). Triple jump: Yashas R Gowda 15.08. **Women: 100m:** Prakruthi Roopa B 11.65, 1. 100m hurdles: Shreeya Rajesh 13.71. **400m:** Priya Mohan 54.67. **800m:** Vaishnavi Rawal 2:11.13. **1500m:** Priyanka C 4:37.51. **3000m steeplechase:** Shreya M 12:13.06. **5000m:** Aradhana 17:21.70. **Shot put:** Ambika V 13.75m. **Discus throw:** Madhurya 44.00. **Javelin throw:** Karishma S Sanil 45.82, 1; Shravya 41.49, 2; Tanmaya Prasad 26.16, 3. Hammer throw: Spruha Naik 48.83, (MR: Old: 46.54, Amreen, 2022) 1; Amreen 41.99, 2; Kushi Salyan 33.67. **High jump:** Pallavi Patil 1.73. Long jump: Pavana Nagaraj 6.02. **Triple jump:** Bhumika KN 12.58.

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560 020
Tender No. BDA/E.E.(E)/212/2026-27 Date: 04.06.2026

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTICE

Short-Term Tender for electricity related works is invited by Bangalore Development Authority (Indent Number: BDA/2026-27/EL/WORK_INDENT247/Call-2). Tender Schedule is as below.

Tender Schedule: **(1)** Date of availability of Tender Documents in e-portal: **05.06.2026. (2)** Last date and time for submission of Tender: **11.06.2026, 17.00 Hrs. (3)** Date of opening Technical Bid of Tender: **12.06.2026, 17.10 Hrs. (4)** Date of opening Financial Bid of Tender: **Refer to e-proc.**

Interested contractors can view further details on **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and for more details it is requested to contact the Electrical Division of BDA during office hours.

Note: For any reason if there is delay in uploading the Tender Documents in e-portal, the revised/modified Tender Schedule will only be published in e-portal.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele.), Electrical Division, BDA, Bengaluru

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಾರವಾರ
ಸಂ: ಕಾ.ನಿ.ಇಂ./ಲೋ.ಇ.ವಿ,ಕಾ/ಪಿ.ಬಿ-1/ಟೆಂಡರ-07/2026-27/1023 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02.05.2026

ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್)

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವರಿಸಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ ಇವರಿಂದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವದು. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಅರ್ಹರಾಗಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು (ಕೆಡಬ್ಲೂ-4) ರಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸುವದು.

(1) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಗೆ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿ: 15-06-2026 16.30 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ (2) ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿ: 16-06-2026 16.30 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ (3) ಟೆಂಡರನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 17-06-2026 17.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ (4) ಟೆಂಡರನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 19-06-2026 17.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು: ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ: **4059-80-051-0-60-132 CMIDP During 2025-26** ವರ್ಕ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ (1) **PWD/2025-26/BR/WORK_INDENT35334** (ಕೆಡಬ್ಲೂ-4) ರಲ್ಲಿನ ನಿಭಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ **e-proc** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾದ ನಿಭಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇಲಾಖಾ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂದರೆ **"https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in"** ನೋಡಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **help desk Bangalore (Phone No. 918025501216 & 918025501227)** ಇವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು ಡಿ.ಟಿ.ಎಸ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

DIPR/KWR/KSMCA/176/26-27 dt. 04.06.2026

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ

(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Madhugiri
No:EE/PWD/Dvn/AE-1/Tender/2026-27 Dated: 30.05.2026
Invitation For Short Term Tender
Tender ref no:07/2026-27

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Madhugiri, invites tenders from eligible Tenderers, for the works. (Sira, Koratagere, Madhugiri and Pavagada Taluk) Approx. amount for the work is Rs.337.31Lakhs. Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPPP portal of the Govt. of Karnataka Viz.http://KPPP.gov.in.Tenders must be submitted through KPPP portal on or before 16-06-2026 (up to 4.00 pm), Technical bids will be opened on 17-06-2026 after 4.15 Pm, Financial bid will be opened on 18-06-2026 after 4.15 Pm. Further any other information can be seen from the KPPP portal or can be had from the undersigned. **Sd/-** Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Madhugiri

DIPR/TUM/93/KSMCA/20265-27

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department. Office of the Executive Engineer Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal. Phone & Fax No : 08539-220054 email: eemidnkst@rediffmail.com
No:EE/MI&GWDD/Koppal/PB/TP/2026-27/707 Dated:02/06/2026

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers registered civil contractors as per standard bid documents KW-2 on KPPP portal for 10 no of works pertaining to Koppal & Raichur district. The approximate amount for the mentioned works varies from **Rs.12.00 to Rs.85.00 Lakhs**. The tenderers may submit tenders for the mentioned work through KPP portal only. Two cover tender procedure as per rule 28 of the KTTP act shall be followed.

For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours and all information regarding tenders can be had from website http:// https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address on or after **05-06-2026.** Last date & time for receipt of tender is **16-06-2026** time 17.30 hours, pre bid meeting will be held on **10-06-2026** time 11.00 hours at this office, date & time for opening of technical bid **18-06-2026** time 11.00 hours, date and time for opening of financial bid **20-06-2026** time 11.00 hours (If technical bid sanction is accorded by the competent authority).

Sd/-Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal.
DIPR/Koppal/134/KSMCA/2026-27

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DAVANAGERE DIVISION, DAVANAGERE.
No.EE:PWD:Dvg/AE-1:IFT-05:2026-27/551 Dated:04.06.2026

SHOR TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref : This office tender notification No. IFT-05/2026-27 dated : 04.06.2026.

The works under Head of Account 4059~80~051~0~60~132 CMIDP 2 works pertaining to Jagalur sub divisions under the Jurisdiction of PWD, Davanagere division, has been called for the tenders from registered Contractors in KPWD for the above works through KPP Portal as per standard tender documents rules.

Tender dates are as mentioned below:

Details of dates	W.I 36140	W.I.36230
Last Date & time for tender queries	Date 04.06.2026 Timing 4.00 P.M.	Date 04.06.2026 Timing 4.00 P.M.
Prebid meeting held : office of Executive enginner, PWD division, avanagere.	Date : 06.06.2026 Timing 11.30 A.M.	-
Last Date & time for receipt of tenders	Date : 18.06.2026 Timing 4.00 P.M.	Date : 11.06.2026 Timing 4.00 P.M.
Date & time for opening of Technical Bid :	Date : 19.06.2026 Timing 4.30 P.M.	Date : 12.06.2026 Timing 4.30 P.M.

Further details can be obtained from this office in office hours.

DIPR/DVG/KSMCA/127/2026-27

Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD, Davanagere.

Government of Karnataka
District officer office, Backward Classes Welfare Department, D.Devrajurs bhavan, Stadium road, chitradurga-577501
Phone number 08194-235034, Fax No.08194-235034
Email-dobcmdavanagere@gmail.com
ಸಂ:ಹಿಂವಕಇ/ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ/ಹೊ.ಸಂ/ಸಿಆರ್-02/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ:02.06.2026

E-Tender Notification

Tender invited through e-procurement, Tenders can be entered through the e-procurement portal Website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Short term tender For the year of 2026-27 for District office of Backward Classes Welfare Department and vacancies in the offices of Taluk backward classes welfare officers Data entry Operator Posts and Backward Classes vacant Position for Cooks in Hostel, Cooking assistants as well night watchmen as well vacant position for cook at Morarji Desai Residential School, cook, cooking assistants and night watchmen's, cleaning staff and Peon and from other qualified organizations interested in obtaining staff service for other posts through the agency .
(1) District Name:Chitradurga (2) Estimated amount of e-tender Rs.774.88 Lakhs (3) EMD amount:Rs.11.62 Lakhs (4) Last Date for Submission of Tender:20.06.2026. Time 5:00
More Information Can Be obtained from this office during office Hours and by logging on to the Website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/148/2026-27

Sd/- District Officer, Backward Classes welfare Department, Chitradurga

TEAMS: 48 VENUES: 16 TOURNAMENT SPAN: 39 DAYS

Argentina draw big frenzy

Messi nursing a hamstring strain, to miss upcoming friendlies

KANSAS CITY, AP

Turns out that reigning World Cup champion Argentina draws quite a crowd no matter where it goes.

Whether it be fans surrounding the team's upscale hotel near downtown Kansas City, or their first training session opened to media on Wednesday that drew hundreds of reporters to the facilities of Major League Soccer club Sporting Kansas City, there are few places that Lionel Messi and the rest of La Albiceleste are not the centre of attention as the tournament draws near.

They begin their title defence against Algeria at Arrowhead Stadium on June 16.

Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni revealed his 26-man World Cup roster last week. It is headlined by Messi, who turns 39 in less than a month, and features 17 players that were on the team that triumphed four years ago against France in the final in Qatar.

Messi has been dealing with muscle fatigue and a mild strain in his left hamstring. The team has said his recovery time will depend on "his clinical and functional progress," though it seems unlikely that he will participate in its upcoming friendlies.

He came to the practice field after the rest of the team on Wednesday and did some conditioning work off to the side.

Argentina superstar Lionel Messi during a training session at the Sporting KC Training Centre in Kansas City. AFP

Argentina did not make any players or coaches available to speak to reporters. The team will continue training in Kansas City until it departs for the first of two World Cup tune-up matches against Honduras on Saturday in College Station, Texas.

The team plays Iceland in Auburn, Alabama, three days later before resuming its training in Kansas City.

Most of the players arrived at the team's home base on Sunday aboard a charter from Buenos Aires designed to pay homage to the nation's rich World Cup history. The flight number 1978 was a nod to the year it beat the Netherlands to win the title, and the A330 was trimmed with special livery that included the national team colours and Messi's No. 10 on the tail.

Messi joined the team on a separate charter from Florida a few hours later. The entire roster got a dose of Midwestern hospitality from hundreds of fans who waited outside the Origin Hotel to greet them, then they got a big taste of summer life in tornado alley when sirens sounded after midnight and a heavy storm rolled through.

High winds and lashing rain knocked over several tents and fences that had been put up for security.

"When they pick you as their training site for defending the World Cup, and this is where they are for the next - you know, hopefully through the end of the tournament - it's surreal," said Jake Reid, the president and CEO of Sporting Kansas City, who watched the open training session with a series of dignitaries that included Kansas City, Missouri, Mayor Quinton Lucas.

"When they landed on Sunday," Reid said, "it started to get real for sure."

Weather notwithstanding, the central location of Kansas City has made it a favourable destination for World Cup base camps.

England football team had hoped to use the home of Sporting KC for training, but Argentina was given preference as defending champion and scooped it up. The Three Lions stuck with their plans to make Kansas City their base, but when they arrive next week, they will be practicing at Sporting KC's old primary facility at the Swope Soccer Village.

6 DAYS to GO

Quickly

Nitin hat-trick in FHC victory

Nitin scored a hat-trick while Suresh hit a brace as Falcon Hockey Club trounced Coorg Blues Hockey Club 7-1 in the KSHA Super Division League Championship in Bengaluru on Thursday, reports *DHNS*.

Result: Falcon Hockey Club: 7 (Suresh 11th, 43rd, Nitin 28th, 32nd, 33rd, Shankar Patil 47th, Appachu 49th) bt Coorg Blues Hockey Club: 1 (Bharath 41st).

ICC visits Bangladesh

A two-member ICC delegation visited Bangladesh to review the developments within the country's cricket board BCB ahead of its scheduled election on June 7, reports PTI from Dhaka.

The BCB is currently run by an interim committee headed by Tamim Iqbal after the national sports council dissolved the previous regime led by Aminul Islam for alleged large scale irregularities.

Deflated India eye turnaround

HISOR, PTI: After being deflated by back-to-back defeats in the Unity Cup last month, India's beleaguered football team would need all the resilience it can muster to outwit a rising Tajikistan when the two sides clash in a FIFA friendly here on Friday.

For inspiration, the Indians can draw from their win against the same opponents last year in the CAFA Nations Cup. But coming in for Friday's game, India have lost to Jamaica (0-2) and Zimbabwe (0-1) in the Unity Cup in London on May 27 and 30 respectively, before arriving here for two matches against Tajikistan in the current FIFA international window (June 1-9).

The second match will also be played here on Sunday. India's 2-1 win over Tajikistan on August 29 last year during the CAFA Nations Cup was head coach Khalid Jamil's first match in charge of the team.

Mani stars in HSFC win

BENGALURU, DHNS: Mani struck four times as Hindu Socials FC thrashed NP Kempe Gowda FC 6-0 in a Group 5 encounter of the BDFA C Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Thursday.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

Results: Group 4: Vel Socials FC: 1 (Ngasoyui Somdhar 12th) bt Netaji FC: 0

Group 5: East West FC: 6 (Dhanush K 5th, 27th, 30th, William S 19th, 32nd, 34th) bt Goans FC: 0; Hindu Socials FC: 6 (Chidambaram Moorthy 9th, 39th, Mani 16th, 34th, 41st, 44th) bt NP Kempe Gowda FC: 0.

Group 6: Sporting Youths FC: 0 drew with Shining Star FC: 0; Freedom FC: 4 (Siddhartha A 1st, 31st, 60th+1, Arvind A 13th) bt Indian Knights FC: 1 (Prajwal Kanaka Hutagi 38th)

Group 7: Minerva FC: 4 (Sri Hari S 2nd, 9th, Mohith 12th, Manish J 58th) bt Devanahalli FC: 1 (Arkshith 54th).

◆ ON TV ◆

TENNIS

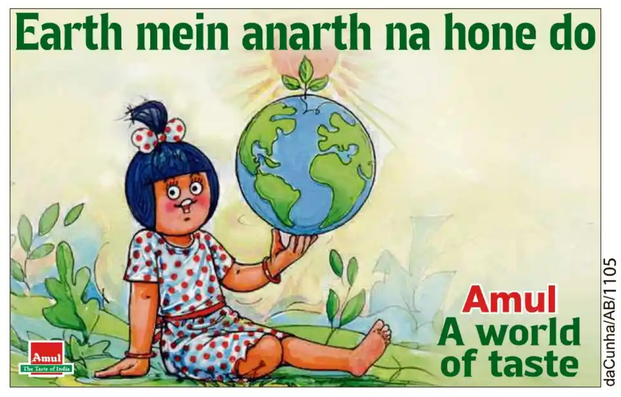
French Open: Men's singles **(semifinal, 6 pm). LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network, FanCode.**

CRICKET

First Test: England vs New Zealand **(day 2, 3:30 pm). LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

BADMINTON

Indonesia Open: Quarterfinal **(7:30 am). LIVE** on **Star Sports Select 2, JioHotstar.**



Fans barred from bringing water bottles

NEW YORK, AFP

FIFA has banned fans from bringing refillable water bottles into World Cup venues in a last-minute policy change that will force thirsty supporters to pay for bottled water, The Athletic reported on Wednesday.

As recently as last month, FIFA's official stadium code of conduct included a clause which read: "For the avoidance of doubt, empty, transparent, reusable plastic bottles, up to (1 litre in) capacity, may be brought into the Stadium."

Thirsty supporters will be forced to pay for bottled water after FIFA banned fans from bringing refillable bottles into World Cup venues. AFP

However, The Athletic reported on Wednesday that those guidelines had now been tweaked to explicitly ban refillable bottles. "For the avoidance of doubt, reusable water bottles may not be brought into the stadium," an updated stadium code of conduct read.

In a statement, a FIFA spokesperson said the rule change was taken on safety grounds, noting that several World Cup venues already barred the use of refillable water bottles. "FIFA is committed to protecting the health and safety of all players, referees, fans, volunteers, and staff," it read.

"FIFA made the decision to prohibit bottles to prevent risk and injury to players and attendees. Outside bottles are already prohibited at several of these venues for safety considerations, and FIFA is applying this consideration across its tournament stadiums."

The statement added that misting stations, fans, hydration stations and cooling tents would be available in "the stadium footprint".

It added that bottled water inside the venue would be sold at prices which "remain consistent with other events held at each stadium."

The rule change comes despite experts warning fans could face health risks from extreme heat at open-air venues during the World Cup.

Kohli out of Afghan ODI series, Gaikwad likely to join squad

Availability of injured Rohit still under a cloud

NEW DELHI, PTI

Indian batting superstar Virat Kohli was on Thursday ruled out of the upcoming ODI series against Afghanistan due to a hamstring injury that he sustained during the recently-concluded IPL.

Ruturaj Gaikwad, who was supposed to play for India A in the tri-series in Sri Lanka is likely to be summoned for the rubber in place of Kohli based on his performance during last appearance in ODIs for India.

The three-match series begins on June 13 in Dharamshala.

Kohli suffered the injury during the IPL final that his side Royal Challengers Bengaluru won on Sunday.

"He is out of the ODI series due to a hamstring injury. He got injured during the final. Scans have revealed distal semimembranosus tendon tear," a BCCI source said.

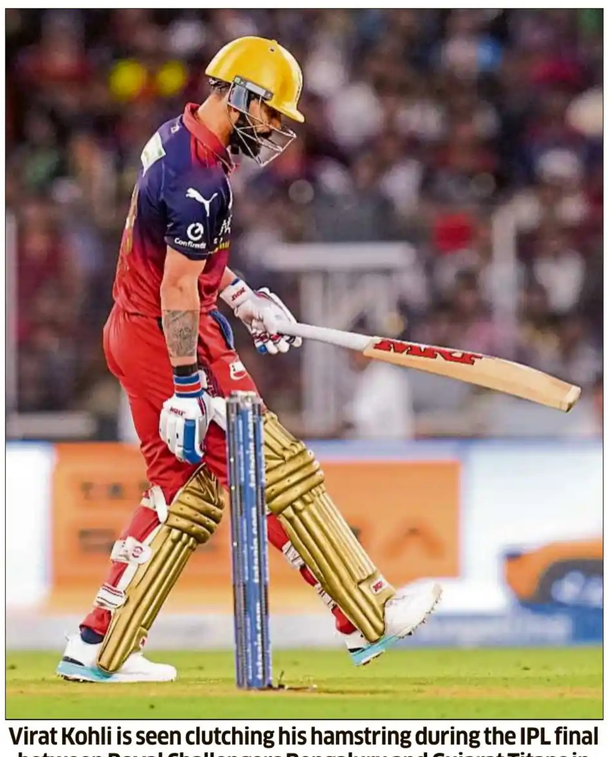
A distal semimembranosus tendon tear is a rare hamstring injury affecting the thick tendon that attaches a muscle to the inner part of the shinbone, just below the knee.

Kohli, known for his unmatched fitness even at 37 years of age, was in stellar form in the IPL where he steered Royal Challengers Bengaluru to a second consecutive title. He hit the winning runs in the final against Gujarat Titans.

Reinventing his T20 game, Kohli amassed 675 runs in RCB's triumphant campaign including a hundred and five fifty plus scores. Kohli's absence will take the sheen off the upcoming series.

Though the former India captain is now a one-format player, he remains a top draw for fans worldwide. It is extremely rare for Kohli to miss games due to an injury, given his exemplary fitness standards.

It also remains to be seen if Rohit Sharma is available for the whole series against Afghanistan. The opener was included in the squad subject to fitness after a hamstring injury affected his IPL appearances.



Virat Kohli is seen clutching his hamstring during the IPL final between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Gujarat Titans in Ahmedabad last Sunday. PTI

When India's assistant coach Ryan Ten Doeschate was asked about Kohli's injury, he insisted that media should wait for the official updates.

"Official communication will will come on that. It's obviously big news when it's someone like Virat or Rohit," Ten Doeschate said.

He also said that Rohit Sharma's hamstring will be assessed before a final call is taken for the one dayers.

"The same protocols will be in place where we'll assess the fitness of those guys and we've got a few days now to decide whether they are fit enough to play and be part of the squad, and make adjustments accordingly. But I'm sure some official communication will come through as soon as the medical team confirms," Ten Doeschate.

We need to stick to a No. 3: Doeschate

MULLANPUR, PTI

India's assistant coach Ryan Ten Doeschate conceded that too many players have batted at number three in Test matches after Cheteshwar Pujara's retirement and it was time that either Sai Sudharsan or Devdutt Padikkal is given a long rope at the key batting position.

Pujara announced his retirement in 2025 but last played in white flannels for India in the WTC final in 2023. Since then Shubman Gill, Padikkal, Sudharsan, Karun Nair and Washington Sundar have all been tried in that position.

Sudharsan has played six Tests and has managed a not-so-impressive average of 27 plus.

"There's been a lot of changes in that spot and and that's not ideal, you know. You need to look at the incumbents for that role and and maybe stick with someone," Ten Doeschate said at a press conference on Thursday.

While both Sudharsan and Padikkal have been getting long rope at nets, Ten Doeschate didnt want to spill the beans about the one who would make it.

On the day, during slip formation, Padikkal was seen standing alongside KL Rahul and skipper Shubman Gill. After Rahul went to the nets, Sudharsan came in.

Ryan ten Doeschate

During nets, Sudharsan once again lost the grip on his bat which slipped and flew backwards like it happened in IPL twice.

"It's a difficult position to bat in and a very important position to bat. Dev comes in with a ton of runs in domestic cricket across all the formats and obviously Sai's been high on runs in IPL with Gujarat, so they're both in good form.

"Whoever plays they'll be given a bit of a run. That's quite difficult with one Test match now, and then we don't play a Test match for another two months, and then we play two Test matches, and then you don't play for a while. So, you know, we need to factor that in," Ten Doeschate said citing a practical problem.

Pandey, Agarwal headline Maharaja T20 player auction

BENGALURU, DHNS: Karun Nair, Mayank Agarwal and Manish Pandey will headline the fifth edition of the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 player auction to be held here on Friday.

With more than 150 players set to go under the hammer, all six franchises will enter the auction pool with a full purse of Rs 60 lakh. Each franchise's think tank will need to assemble a squad comprising a minimum of 16 and a maximum of 18 players, in addition to two mandatory Catchment Area Players.

Players have been classified into five pools — A, B, C, D and E — with base prices of Rs 2 lakh, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 50,000, Rs 75,000 and Rs 30,000 respectively. And it is mandatory for the teams to acquire at least 12 players from Pools A, B and C combined.

Pool A features India and IPL cricketers. Alongside the marquee names, players such as Vyshak Vijaykumar, Smaran R and Yashraj Punja are among the sought-after prospects.

Pool B comprises cricketers who have represented Karnataka's senior side in any format under the age of 30 while Pool C is of players who have represented Karnataka at the Junior level.

Pool D features players aged between 30 and 35 who have represented the senior state team. Pool E consists of all other KSCA-registered cricketers under the age of 30 who have been shortlisted by the State Selection Committee.

Mayank Agarwal

Brunson inspires Knicks fightback

SAN ANTONIO, AFP

Jalen Brunson scored 30 points as the New York Knicks erased a 14-point second-half deficit to stun the San Antonio Spurs 105-95 and take a 1-0 lead in the NBA Finals on Wednesday.

Knicks talisman Brunson shrugged off an early injury scare to inspire a magnificent fightback and give New York a precious early advantage in the best-of-seven series.

Jalen Brunson

Brunson upstaged Spurs superstar Victor Wembanyama with a masterful clutch fourth quarter display, scoring 13 points in the final frame as the Knicks closed out a win to silence an expectant home crowd in Texas.

The game was tied with just over two minutes to go, but Brunson marshalled the Knicks brilliantly and a late burst of scoring put the game out of the Spurs' reach.

"Just sticking together -- it wasn't really our night and wasn't really my night most of the night but we kept finding a way, kept chipping away," Brunson said afterwards.

The Knicks playmaker said the team's "chemistry" had helped them climb out of their 14-point hole in the third quarter.

Game two of the series takes place in San Antonio on Friday.

Robinson ignites English revival

LONDON, AFP

Ollie Robinson marked his first Test for more than two years with four wickets, including three in a sensational opening over, as New Zealand suffered a stunning collapse to 29-6 on the opening day of the first Test at Lord's on Thursday.

England had been dismissed for just 140 themselves after losing the toss.

But that soon looked an imposing total, with the overcast conditions still in favour of the fast bowlers when New Zealand began their reply in the first of a three-Test series.

Ollie Robinson

Robinson, bowling the second over of the innings, took three wickets for no runs in four balls to leave New Zealand reeling at 2-3, with the normally reserved Lord's crowd chanting his name in what is the 150th Test at the London ground.

The 32-year-old seamer had Devon Conway lbw with his third ball and then removed Kane Williamson and Rachin Ravindra for ducks with the last two balls of his first over.

Key batsman Williamson was caught off bat and pad as the ball lobbed gently to short leg.

Brief scores: England: 140 all out in 39.4 overs (Harry Brook 56; Kyle Jamieson 5-62, Nathan Smith 3-38, Will O'Rourke 2-25) vs New Zealand: 61/6 in 19.2 overs (Glenn Phillips 31 n.o., Ollie Robinson 4-10)

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